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MAZADA TOURS

TASE surges; Frenkel demands budget, tax cuts

NEIL COHEN and JOSE ROSENFELD

STOCKS on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange surged yesterday, albeit in light trading, as buyers returned to the market and found almost no sellers.

The Two-Sided Index rose by 3.5 percent to 150.3 points while the Maof Index of the 25 most heavily traded stocks rose nearly 4% to 151.6 points. The bond market, though, was weaker. The market rose upon opening and continued to strengthen as the day progressed.

Pundits had differing explanations for the market's jump. Some viewed it as a technical bounce after an extended run of losses, while others attributed the market's mood to remarks made by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel to the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday, which hinted at interest rate cuts. Frenkel told the committee, however, that interest rates would not drop significantly. (Continued on Page 19)

Public pessimistic about market

PEOPLE are still pessimistic about the direction of the TASE, according to a survey carried out this week by pollsters Hanoach and Rafi Smith. The Smiths said the results of the survey reflect the general sense of uncertainty prevailing among the population.

According to the poll, in which 543 persons were interviewed on Tuesday and Wednesday, 14% of the population expect the stock market to rise in the near future, 28% expect it to fall, 23% feel the market will hold at around its current level, while 35% said they do not know what will happen. The poll's margin of error was approximately 4.5%.

Germans hold Nick Leeson; Singapore seeks extradition

News agencies

FRANKFURT - Financial whiz Nick Leeson, who broke Britain's oldest merchant bank, was detained at Frankfurt Airport yesterday, as Singapore moved swiftly to have him returned to face allegations of forgery.

If he resists extradition, experts believe the island republic could be involved in months of legal wrangling.

Leeson, 28, is to appear before a German judge today.

In London, the crisis at failed investment bank Barings PLC appeared closer to resolution, as administrators said they had entered into talks about selling virtually all of Barings to ING Group of the Netherlands.

The Dutch group has tentatively offered to pay £1 for Barings, in exchange for taking on all the

liabilities it incurred after Leeson ruined it by losing \$900 million on Asian futures markets, according to an executive familiar with the arrangement.

Before closing a deal, ING will carefully scrutinize Barings' books to make sure there are no hidden minefields, the executive told the Associated Press.

It was unclear how long it might take ING to make up its mind, or whether Barings can be back in business before a final deal is done.

German border police detained Leeson, after he arrived with his wife Lisa on a flight from Brunei.

The Singapore Embassy in Bonn handed Frankfurt prosecutors a statement alleging that Leeson had forged a document confirming a payment of 7,778,000,000 yen (\$81 million) into a Citibank account in the name of Barings Futures. (Continued on Page 2)



Moslems pray at dawn yesterday at the Dome of the Rock shrine on the Temple Mount, at the start of the Id al-Fitr festival marking the end of Ramadan. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin phoned PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to wish him a happy holiday. (Rena)

Christopher may try to defuse NPT crisis

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL is getting hints that Secretary of State Warren Christopher may seek to defuse the Egypt-Israel impasse over the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) by asking both sides to defer the issue to the next meeting of the multilateral negotiations on arms control, a senior Israeli official said yesterday.

Extension of the NPT is to be decided on in mid-April. The next session of arms control negotiations is to be held in May or June.

This official said he expected Christopher, during his visit to the region next week, to give the NPT issue equal weight with attempts to move the Israel-Syria negotiations along.

"I think it will be 50-50 between NPT and Syria," the official said.

Christopher has listed both issues, along with sanctions against Iraq, as the three main themes of his trip.

One of Egypt's key demands is that Israel commit to begin nego-

tiating the parameters of a nuclear-free zone in the multilateral arms control negotiations, even if the implementation would be delayed until there is comprehensive Middle East peace.

Israel, however, has opposed early negotiations, indicating that it only wants to begin talks on these issues after a regional peace

is in place, which would mean after an unforeseen peace agreement with Iran.

Christopher is expected to arrive first to Cairo on Wednesday before arriving here the next day. Next weekend, he is to head to Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Syria, and then return here.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his aides are expressing rela-

tion to the fact that he has done so speaks for itself, say Labor insiders.

His resigning now means that the mandatory 100-day cooling-

Barak free to be minister by June

ALON PINKAS and SARAH HONIG

FORMER chief of general staff Ehud Barak, whose retirement from the IDF became official yesterday, is expected to join the Labor Party immediately upon returning from a study program in the US, according to a confidant of his.

"Ehud Barak envisions himself at the center of political and defense affairs, and I cannot tell you that he lacks ambitions in those areas. He also knows all too well that to get there requires a political commitment, which I think he is now ready to make," the source said.

He refused to comment on the possibility Barak would be appointed defense minister, nor whether the issue had even come up in discussions with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin prior to Barak's departure for the US in January.

Barak's decision to retire at this point fully confirms speculation he is to enter the government in mid-June, Labor Party figures said.

In fact, Barak's retirement was awaited in Labor as a clue to whether he really intends to enter politics. He was entitled to paid separation leave until next January, and thus need not have resigned now. The fact he has done so speaks for itself, say Labor insiders.

His resigning now means that the mandatory 100-day cooling-

off period between military service and public office will have passed by June, when Rabin has hinted he will reshuffle his cabinet.

According to one body of opinion in Labor, Barak is slated to take over the Interior portfolio, which has been temporarily entrusted to Tourism Minister Uzi Baram. It was specifically stressed to Barak that he was to be a caretaker for only a few months.

Interior is considered the one major portfolio which Rabin could easily reassign without entering into a major reshuffle, a move which is fraught with danger. Barak is reported to prefer Defense, which is held by Rabin, who is unwilling to give it up.

"Interior minister is not exactly his dream-come-true, although the political power inherent in this office should not be disregarded," said one minister. "As for creating an internal security ministry for him, it would really mean very little, because the prime minister cannot by law or political logic relinquish his jurisdiction over the General Security Service."

"That leaves Police, and I doubt that Barak, who has proven his political astuteness on many occasions, will want to place himself on a collision course with Moshe Shahal."

Another opinion in Labor is that Barak be made a minister-without-portfolio, with special duties in the Defense Ministry. (Continued on Page 19)

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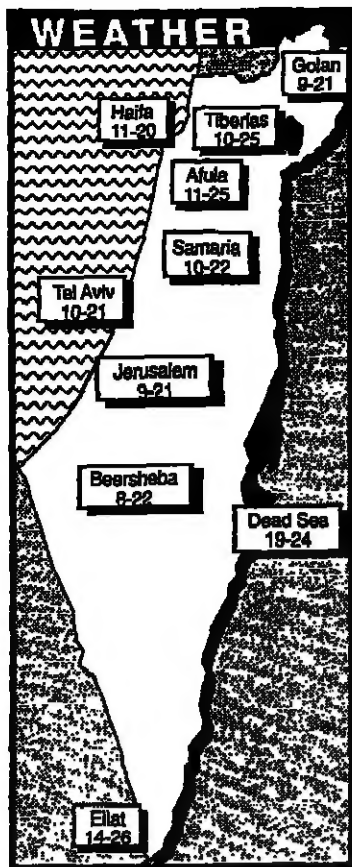
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Peres to attend talks on displaced Palestinians in Amman next week

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres will open negotiations with Arab officials in Amman next Tuesday about one of the most sensitive issues in the Oslo accord – the fate of those Palestinians displaced by the Six Day War.

Peres will be joined at the ceremonial opening by the foreign ministers of Jordan and Egypt, and probably chief Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath. The four parties constitute the so-called "continuing committee" on this issue.

Foreign Ministry officials played down any hopes for early breakthrough, saying the toughest questions will be dealt with in working groups. The most charged issues are calculating who qualifies as a displaced Palestinian, and who will be permitted to enter the territories and when.

DAVID MAKOVSKY

Israel says there were 200,000 Palestinians displaced by the war, while the Palestinians insist that, counting their offspring, the number has mushroomed to 800,000.

Soon after the Oslo accord, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin suggested that nowhere near the 200,000 would enter Israel.

The issue of displaced Palestinians from 1967 should not be confused with the 1948 refugees. According to the Oslo agreement, their plight will be discussed in the final status talks.

The Oslo accord's provision for negotiations on displaced Palestinians originated with the Camp David Accords. According to Oslo, a "continuing committee" composed of Isra-

el, the Palestinians, Jordan, and Egypt "will decide by agreement on the modalities of admission of persons displaced from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967, together with necessary measures to prevent disruption and disorder."

Palestinian Authority officials have publicly stressed the importance of resolving this issue.

Israeli officials insist that Jerusalem's wariness is matched by private Palestinian concern, which Israel claims is at variance with public statements.

"The issue has important public relations value to the Palestinians, but privately, they don't want to know where they would put so many people if they should be allowed in," a Foreign Ministry official said.

Savir: No way to skip interim stage and go to final status talks

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THERE are no prospects of skipping the interim agreement and heading straight to "final status" talks with the Palestinians on the disposition of the territories, as this could only end in a deadlock, Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir told diplomatic correspondents yesterday.

Savir's remarks came after Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said this week he has held informal talks with some Palestinians in Stockholm about the parameters of a final status disposition of the territories.

"These are informal talks, not negotiations," said Beilin, who gave the first go-ahead to the Oslo talks in early 1993.

Beilin, who publicly made clear months ago his preference to jump to final status talks, said the differences between Israel and Palestinians on final status are actually narrower than public statements suggest. According to the Oslo agreement, final status talks are slated to begin a year from this May and conclude no later than 1999.

Despite the current impasse on the interim agreement, Savir voiced confidence that both a deal would be reached and Pales-

tinian elections would be held this year. According to the Oslo accord, of which Savir was one of its lead negotiators, an interim agreement and Palestinian elections were slated to be held last July. Leading Palestinians to charge that the accord is being violated by Israel.

"There is no possibility of veering away from Oslo and heading directly to final status, because I don't see a solution to the final status issues: Jerusalem, refugees, settlements, and borders," Savir declared. The director-general noted that, whenever there has been an Israeli-Palestinian crisis and talk about abandoning Oslo, ultimately both sides return to the "Oslo highway."

Savir offered no short-term relief to Palestinian economic problems caused by the closure of the territories since the Beit Lid bombings on January 22. While he outlined a variety of plans to establish several joint Palestinian-Israeli industrial parks in areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority (PA), which would involve international donors contributing \$20 million for infrastructure, Savir acknowledged that it would take time for the parks to be established.

Likud blasts government over refugee talks

LIAT COLLINS

LIKUD MKs yesterday strongly attacked the government over its planned meeting to discuss the return of some Palestinians displaced by the Six Day War.

"[Foreign Minister Shimon] Peres's willingness to return millions of displaced people to Judea and Samaria is another step in the government's willingness to open the country's gates to the return

of millions of refugees. This isn't foreign policy; it's mental sickness," said Likud bureau chairman Uzi Landau.

Landau also accused Peres of relentlessly working on raising hundreds of millions of dollars abroad to improve the economic condition of Arabs in Judea, Sa-

maria, and Gaza, "which will encourage the flow of terrorists to come and live next to our homes."

He said the Foreign Ministry is guilty of "disinformation," when it says this approach reflects the Camp David Accords. "This is the opposite of Camp David,

which, in a single clause, deals with the return of a small number of displaced persons on a humanitarian basis," he said.

MK Michael Eitan was even more outspoken. "Israel's agreement to move millions of refugees into western Eretz Yisrael is another step in the government's approval of Auschwitz borders and conditions."

LEESON

(Continued from Page 1)

The forgery was said to have been aimed at deceiving Baring Futures into believing the sum had been paid into its account by a US company. Frankfurt prosecutor Hans-Hermann said it would be the main basis for any extradition.

Barings' collapse will wipe at least £500,000 off the personal fortune of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, a newspaper estimated yesterday.

The Prince's Trust, a youth charity run by her son and heir Prince Charles, could lose nearly as much, the *Guardian* said.

CORRECTION

An item report in Wednesday's paper concerning the threatening of an American tourist, by masked men in the village of El-Zariya (Bethany), misidentified him. He is Stephen Dumphy, 35.

CHRISTOPHER

(Continued from Page 1)

tively modest expectations for the Christopher trip.

Speaking to an Israeli Arab audience in Sakhuin yesterday, Rabin voiced hope that Christopher would succeed in "perhaps re-negotiating contacts also at the senior level" between Israel and Syria. He was presumably referring to the talks between Israeli and Syrian military chiefs that began in December, but which Damascus halted due to dissatisfaction with Israeli security positions.

When an Israeli Radio report last night said Rabin hoped Christopher would bring about a breakthrough in talks with Syria,

the premier's aides hurriedly issued a denial. Though aides to Rabin have signaled that the premier is not looking for Christopher to make major substantive strides in the negotiations, Foreign Ministry officials have privately complained that Christopher is not forceful enough in pushing the Israel-Syria talks forward.

President Bill Clinton phoned Rabin yesterday while the premier was touring the Taiba Municipality. According to a Rabin aide, the two spoke for about 10 minutes, discussing issues related to Christopher's visit. The aide did not elaborate.

Mubarak says PLO-Israeli delay may breed violence

CAIRO (Reuters) – Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has said further delays in implementing the PLO's troubled self-rule accord with Israel will encourage the spread of violence in the Middle East and Europe.

"Delay in implementing the principles of the plan will not only harm [PLO leader Yasser] Arafat, it will harm the whole region, as well as neighboring countries," Mubarak said in an interview with the Lebanese magazine *Al-Hawadith*, published in Egyptian newspapers yesterday.

"I see Israeli hesitation in implementing the accord – I fear that if [the accord] fails we will not return to square one, but to a situation worse than that," he said, adding that violence could break out in Europe if the accord failed.

Lebanon wants UN to force Israel to halt naval blockade

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

LEBANON has asked the United Nations to take steps to halt the Israeli blockade of its southern ports, which it said was linked to other "mindless acts of aggression."

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, made public yesterday, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Boueiz said a naval blockade of Tyre had spread to all port cities of southern Lebanon, violating Lebanese sovereignty and preventing fishermen from working.

The blockade, which began some three weeks ago, was "ac-

companied daily by heavy artillery shelling and murderous air raids, which have resulted in numerous casualties among innocent civilians in southern Lebanon and in the western Bekaa [Valley] and caused considerable material damage," Boueiz said.

He called on the Security Council to implement its resolutions on Lebanon, so that Israel "might respect the territorial integrity of Lebanon on land and on sea, cease its daily attacks on innocent civilians ... and lift its naval blockade of Lebanese coastal ports."

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	SEA
Amsterdam	68	78	15	3
Berlin	65	75	15	3
Bombay	75	85	15	3
Calcutta	75	85	15	3
Cairo	65	75	15	3
Chennai	75	85	15	3
Copenhagen	65	75	15	3
Dublin	65	75	15	3
Hong Kong	75	85	15	3
London	65	75	15	3
Los Angeles	65	75	15	3
Madrid	65	75	15	3
Moscow	65	75	15	3
New York	65	75	15	3
Paris	65	75	15	3
Rome	65	75	15	3
Sydney	65	75	15	3
Tokyo	65	75	15	3
Toronto	65	75	15	3
Vancouver	65	75	15	3

ARRIVALS

Delegation of Norwegian Labor Party Israel Friendship Association, to plant a forest in memory of Jonas Jorgensen, the late foreign minister of Norway, who was very instrumental in the Oslo peace process. The delegation, which includes the secretary-general of the party, Dag Torge Andersen, and is headed by Paul Engstad, was entertained yesterday by the Israel-Norway Friendship Association, headed by Rona, Consul-General Elise Jakobsen and his son, Omi Jakobsen, at a reception at the Tel Aviv Dan Hotel. Also attending were Karl Nordheim Larsen, Norwegian minister of development cooperation, who is visiting Israel; Norwegian Ambassador Svendsen, and the embassy staff, as well as Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir and Holo's widow, Marianne Helbert, who resides in Jerusalem.

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Nahum Hudea, (center) suspected of stabbing an Arab in Jerusalem's Old City on Wednesday, is led to his remand hearing yesterday in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. He was remanded for 15 days. (Brian Hendler)

'Germany pressuring Iran for Arad's release'

Newspaper says Iran may lose German credits

FRANKFURT (AP) — Germany might withdraw government-backed trade credits for Iran if Teheran does not arrange the release of Ron Arad, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper said yesterday.

Israel and Iran have been negotiating indirectly every two weeks in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's offices in Bonn, but the talks have been broken off temporarily, the newspaper said.

The Iranian government denied the newspaper's previous report that German mediators were shuttling from one room to another, facilitating the indirect negotiations.

Israeli officials had acknowledged German contacts with Iran were made and issues important to Israel were raised.

But Israeli officials had suggested the previous leaked report was intended to distract attention from the German Economics Ministry's decision last week to reinstate government-backed credits worth \$102 million for exports to Iran.

The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* said in its latest story, to appear in today's edition, that the credits were part of a phased plan to drag concessions out of Iran on the Arad case, and Germany would consider withdrawing the credits if Iran didn't

put enough pressure on the radical group believed holding him.

Arad has been missing since his aircraft was shot down over Lebanon in 1986.

After the last *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* report, Israel said it believed Arad was alive in Iran, but denied it had received any evidence of that through the German mediation.

The Iranian government issued a statement saying that, at Kohl's request, it had conducted a search for the airman, and had not found him.

The main stumbling block in the indirect negotiations, the newspaper said, was that Arad is held by a group directed by radical Islamic clergy rather than by Iranian government authorities.

The newspaper quoted unnamed German government sources for most of its story, and also cited Israeli intelligence sources saying that Israel had certain knowledge for months that Arad was alive and in Iran.

Israel has criticized Germany indirectly for maintaining economic ties with Iran, despite admonitions from Washington that Iran should be shunned as a country promoting terrorism. Germany justifies its policy as a way to keep contacts open and try to turn Iran away from dangerous acts.

Labor continues to debate terms for Ramon's return

SARAH HONIG

rescinding the expulsions, and that "understandings have been reached on both the party and Histadrut planes."

MK Hagai Meron, closely allied with Ramon, argued that "there must be no preconditions for accepting Ramon back. The Histadrut merger cannot be used as a precondition, or it would block the entire move."

"Everyone knows full well that Ramon is not alone in this, and that he owes allegiance to those who went with him. Ramon has declared that he will not allow his colleagues be slaughtered politically. It cannot be ignored that the faction he leads in the Histadrut is not a purely Labor faction, but has Meretz and Shas components in it. Ignoring all this is

tantamount to not really being sincere about bringing Ramon back."

Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, who holds the cabinet post Ramon vacated a year ago, opposed any negotiations with Ramon.

"If he wants to rejoin Labor, he should rejoin to join the party, and that's all there ought to be to it," he said. "A party can negotiate with other parties, but not with individual would-be members."

Earlier, a committee headed by MK Eil Goldschmidt handed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin a report on how to bring Ramon back. It mentioned sending out letters inviting back some 300 Laborites expelled over the past few years. The report makes no mention of preconditions.

Arafat visits Sheikh Yassin's family

JON IMMANUEL and ifim

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat visited the Gaza home of imprisoned Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin for the first time yesterday, and told his family that he would do everything possible to secure his release.

Arafat visited the family on the occasion of Id al-Fitr, the three-day festival which marks the end of Ramadan.

Earlier Arafat prayed in the Katiba Mosque near his office. He also visited the graves of slain Fatah Hawks and the three policemen killed in a shoot-out with Israeli soldiers in January.

After the feast ends on Saturday night, Arafat will face important visits by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Tuesday and British Prime Minister John Major on March 13, his office said.

Planning Minister Nabil Shaath is to travel to Amman on Monday for the beginning of talks on repatriation of Palestinians who fled to Jordan during the Six Day War.

Meanwhile, in his Id al-Fitr sermon, Sheikh Ahmed Bacher, a leading Hamas figure, attacked Arafat, calling him "a dictator serving the Rabin government."

"The Palestinian jihad and armed struggle must continue until the liberation of the holy soil of Palestine and its capital, Jerusalem," he added.

The Palestinian Police yesterday arrested 10 Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists in the Gaza Strip, after they were caught writing anti-

Arafat slogans on the walls. Hamas and Islamic Jihad condemned the arrests, which came two days after 30 members of the two groups were released from custody in honor of Id al-Fitr.

In a related development, Brig-Gen. David Shafaf, the newly appointed head of the Civil Administration of Judea and Samaria, visited Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe and said he expects an improvement in the town, which has been tense since the Hebron massacre a year ago.

The Cave of the Machpela is closed to Jews for the three days of Id al-Fitr.

Overnight in Hebron, soldiers arrested six people in a car after they stopped it for a check and found 10 firebombs, an ax, and a plastic pistol, the IDF said.

Oxford Union: Israel's neighbors still a threat

DOUGLAS DAVIS LONDON

ISRAEL has reason to continue fearing its neighbors, the Oxford Union concluded after hearing four Israelis debate the issue beneath the ornate pre-Raphaelite ceiling in its famous debating chamber.

MK Benny Temkin (Meretz) contended there has been a fundamental change in the Middle East "and whoever does not understand this will never achieve peace."

Israelis no longer fear for the existence of the state, he said, but they face an "ethnic war" if they continue ruling over an unwilling Palestinian population.

David Bar-Ilan, executive editor of *The Jerusalem Post*, said it is not possible to achieve real peace with dictatorships, but Israel can achieve "arrangements" with its neighbors.

"We do not want to rule another people," he said, "but we want a settlement reached by careful negotiations, that will not kill us and inevitably lead to war."

Dr. Mordechai Bar-On, a leader of Peace Now leader, argued that the decision to negotiate with PLO leader Yasser Arafat was not based on trust, and that Israel must create the circumstances in which Arafat has an interest in preserving peace.

Israel, he added, was right to demand that Arafat crack down on Hamas and Islamic Jihad, but his willingness to do this can be tested only if the Palestinians are given the chance to exercise "sovereign power."

The alternative to a settlement would be a "horrendous war" which would leave thousands of Israelis and Palestinians dead. "We will be victorious, but Haifa will be in ashes," he warned. "The next war must be prevented."

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Reluctant Europeans

BRITAIN'S Prime Minister John Major has had another lucky escape as he barely scraped through a parliamentary challenge to his policies on Europe. In a most unusual development in British politics, the ruling government party is both deeply unpopular in the country and divided against itself in the House of Commons. It is a situation which is doing nothing to change Britain's image as the reluctant European Union member.

The extent to which the knives are out in the Conservative Party was sharply demonstrated when former cabinet minister Norman Lamont - also formerly Major's friend and ally - cast an unprecedented vote with the opposition Labor Party. He was the only member of the Conservatives to support the Labor motion censuring Major's EU policy, which the Conservatives won with a razor-thin five vote majority from the 633 cast. Nine Northern Ireland members also exercised revenge on the beleaguered Major by voting with the opposition - not over any principle regarding Europe, but for what they consider his sell-out to Irish republicans in the otherwise well-received Irish-UK peace plan.

Major's increasing troubles are not just a domestic British problem. European Union members are thoroughly sick of Britain's blow-hot blow-cold attitude to the greatest continental enterprise in history. Seen from London, Europe too often appears no more than a shuttleduck to be batted backwards and forwards across the floor of the House of Commons.

At the core of the latest problem is the

question of a referendum on the common currency proposed for the union. Not only can Britons not make up their parliamentary minds on Europe, but they have never been able to determine what their attitude is to the constitutional tool of the referendum. Traditional parliamentarians bristle at the undermining of their legitimate authority to make national decisions by the handing over of key issues to the fickle ebb and flow of public opinion. Advocates of a more involved modern style of democracy object to parliament riding rough-shod over the same public opinion.

The debate on the value of referendums is open in many countries, including Israel, but a point comes when governments must make decisions. In Europe, the French, Irish and Danes, for example, have long adopted and felt comfortable with the referendum. Losers never like losing, as in Ireland on the divorce referendum, but in these countries referendums are accepted as valid expressions of the will of the people.

It is bad enough that British governments dither on decisions about the EU. It is worse when they also dither about deciding on how the decisions should be made. It is time for Major to put the interests of the future of the EU above party-political vote-counting and make up his mind on whether or not the referendum is to be the tool London uses to vote on the European currency union. Then maybe Britain can finally decide whether it wants to be an enthusiastic European or a Little England.

Wild Winnie

IF President Nelson Mandela is one of the world's most admired national leaders, his former wife is becoming one of the most embarrassing liabilities of his government. She is marginally ahead of the cantankerous Zulu Inkatha leader, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, as a loose cannon in the new South Africa.

In her latest misadventure, Winnie Mandela, deputy minister of arts, culture, science, and technology, was forced to cut short an already controversial trip to West Africa and fly home, as police raided her Soweto home in the course of bribe-taking investigations. According to a senior police officer, Mandela allegedly received \$21,000 paid through the Coordinated Anti-Poverty Program she heads, and was to receive \$9,000 more each month in exchange for securing a contract for a building company. Furthermore, her daughter, Zinzi, was to get half the shares in the company, her personal doctor would get more, and the deal would leave the deputy minister in effective control of the building company.

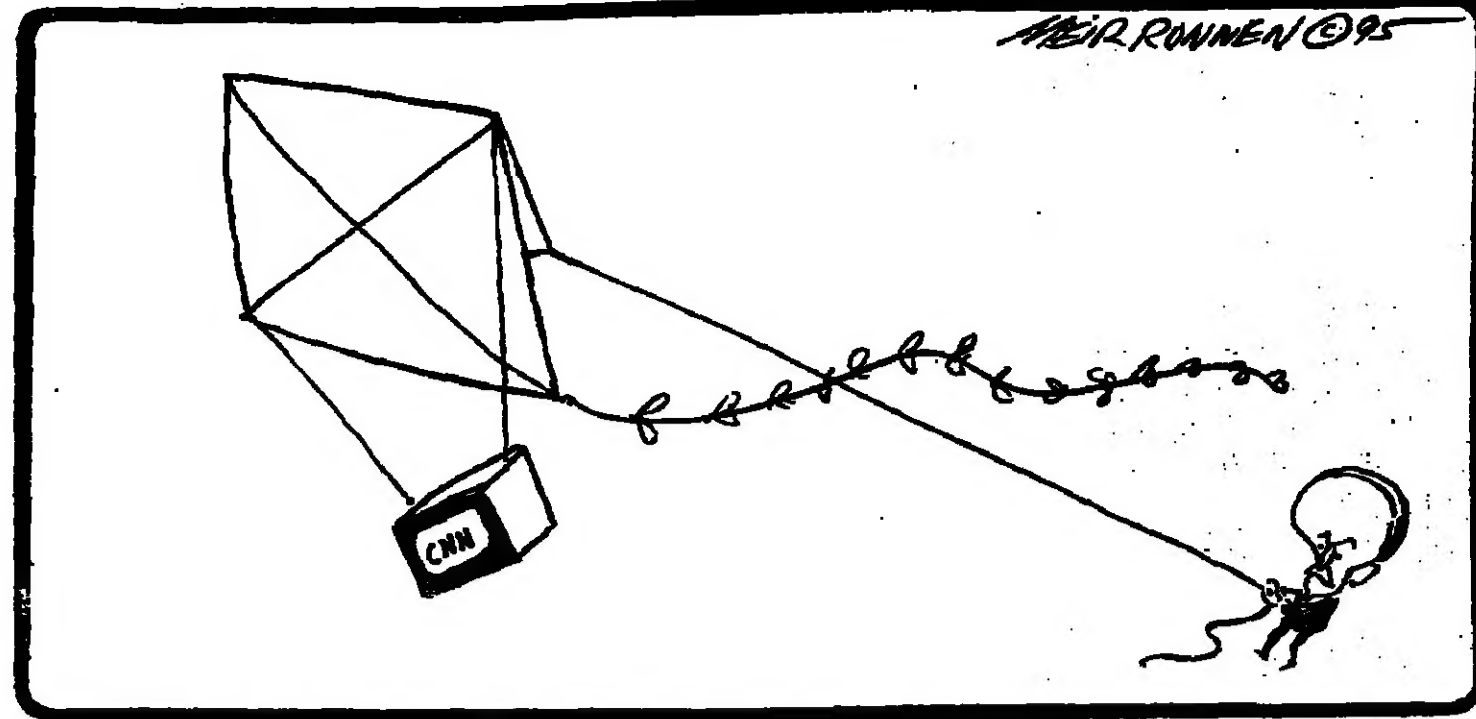
This alleged scam is one of those typical across corruption-ridden Africa. It is not the sort of norm Nelson Mandela would wish to see imported into his fledgling multi-racial democracy. If the allegations prove to be even partially true, it will be absolutely essential for the government to be rid of this troublesome woman once and for all if she is not to tarnish the image of the country at so early and vital a stage of its development.

In typical style, Winnie Mandela complained loudly that the investigation is part of a conspiracy and "apartheid era persecution" to discredit her. This is arrant nonsense - the president knew an investigation was in hand but was not informed of the raid on her house, and even her supporters in the African National Congress have said it is purely a police matter - but they are disturbed by the scandal.

The fact is Winnie Mandela needs no political plot to discredit her. She does a pretty thorough job of it herself. Most recently she had her knuckles rapped for criticizing the national unity government she is part of - an incident that put her within a hair's breadth of being fired. Then half the board of the ANC Women's League she heads quit, incensed by her high-handed leadership and her self-serving deals made on the league's behalf without consultation. The trip to West Africa from which she had to flee home yesterday had been made in defiance of the express wishes of the president that she cancel it.

In her most infamous scandal in 1991, Mandela was convicted of kidnapping in the case of young Stompie MacKenzie. He was one of four boys beaten by her bodyguards and he was later found murdered. She appealed the conviction and paid a fine rather than going to jail.

Nelson Mandela announced in 1992 that he was separating from his wife. The time has come to announce that his government is doing the same in 1995.



The Palestinian maze

CHAIM HERZOG

Because of the debate which has split the Israeli public down the middle, our leadership has not told it how it envisions the final results of the process. This is a great failure.

The Palestinians, on the other hand, have a clear and declared purpose: the creation of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

This lack of clarity and certain-

I am not suggesting stopping the process. I am convinced that, for both internal and external political reasons, it is irreversible. Israelis aren't eager to return their young people to the alleys and hovels of Gaza.

Accordingly, we have to concentrate on the following issues:

● A major anti-terror effort must be made. It has to be made clear to Arafat that he cannot

Israel has no choice but to address itself to the final arrangement

ty as to our future direction can only militate against us.

Israel is in a Catch-22 situation. It tells the Palestinians it will not extend the scope of their authority until they prove they have taken effective steps to curb Islamic terrorism. Their reply is that unless Israel gives them more political power, they won't be able to supply more security.

We are obliged to react to terror, but every reaction - the closure, for example - could conceivably weaken the Palestinian Authority, whose strength and success is in our vital interest.

Furthermore, to carry out its functions effectively, the PA needs a major economic input. But as long as it is weak and cannot guarantee stability and security, its prospects of attracting investment from abroad diminish.

THERE IS no magic way out of this Catch-22 situation.

wash his hands of responsibility. It is not clear what form of understanding exists between Arafat and Hamas or if one exists at all; but should terrorism continue, there will be no alternative but for our security forces to act, even in the area under the PA's control.

● Despite the various problems that will be created by Palestinian elections, it is important to hold them early. Elections would make the Palestinian public face up to the issues of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement. Should Arafat be successful in the elections - as I believe he will - he will gain strength, both as a representative of the Palestinian people and as its leader.

The growth of terror has turned IDF redeployment away from the major towns into an issue. A possible solution is substituting Israeli police and Border Police units for the IDF. Arafat will understand that accommo-

dating Israel in this respect can only lead to an increased flow of economic aid.

● It is important that Israel prepare for the final agreement, setting out its red lines clearly and unequivocally and making it clear well in advance that, come what may, it will not budge from them, in the case of Jerusalem, for example.

The idea of separation is a step in this direction. Unfortunately, it came into existence not as a result of advance political thought and planning, but as an instinctive reaction to terror.

The basic idea of separation is a correct one, but we must clarify to ourselves what we mean by it. Do we mean physical, political or economic separation?

Clarifying this point obviously implies expounding our ideas and making major decisions regarding a final arrangement.

We would be well advised to begin a detailed examination of various forms of solution, cantonization, for example, or adjusting the borders in accordance with the proposal published recently by the Institute for Strategic Studies.

In light of the current confused situation in Judea and Samaria, and the very complex relationship between Jews and Palestinians against the background of terrorism, we have no alternative.

Failure to address ourselves to the form of the final agreement will only add to the doubt that negotiations with the Palestinians can be brought to a peaceful conclusion.

The writer was Israel's sixth president.

Iran's weak spot: its pocket

MOSHE ZAK

THE hasty retreat of UN forces from Mogadishu and the industrialized countries' race to develop economic links with Teheran are two facets of a single weakness: the international community's powerlessness to confront the violence and terror in the Middle East instigated by the warlords of Somalia and the Iranian ayatollahs.

Somalia, a member of the Arab League, and Iran, a member of the Council of Muslim Nations, lie at the extreme ends of the Middle East, but their political and economic developments are far from isolated. They have implications for Israel as well.

The determination of the international community, under US leadership, to confront Iraq after it invaded Kuwait helped create an atmosphere which led to the start of the peace process between Israel and its neighbors. And the Madrid conference was convened after the Arab states became convinced that they no longer had a war option.

The US, which hasn't forgotten that its support for Iraq during the 1980s indirectly aided the construction of the Iraqi war machine, strongly opposes lifting the Security Council embargo until all the teeth of Iraqi aggression have been drawn. Despite a public statement by Russia's foreign minister that the embargo should be lifted to allow Baghdad to pay back its huge debt to Moscow, Washington has stood firm.

No embargo has been imposed on Iran, but the US has included Iran with Iraq in its policy of dual containment.

Iran, which threatens the stability of Arab regimes by fanatical revolutionary agitation - both financial and organizational - under the banner of extreme Moslem fundamentalism, has now set its sights on nuclear armament

and long-range missiles.

The US is concerned. It has tried to persuade Moscow not to sell Teheran atomic power plants which would give it a nuclear option, and has threatened North Korea with sanctions if it provides Iran with long-range missiles.

Washington, won't start a quarrel over Iran.

So it is claiming that the nuclear reactors it is selling are only for peaceful purposes - the same sort of claims France made for the reactor it sold Baghdad in the 1970s.

However, one-quarter of Iran's

Those who wish to contain the ayatollahs' nuclear ambitions must withhold the money to realize them

The US wasn't happy about Israel's attempt to compensate North Korea for the financial loss incurred by canceling the missiles deal with Iran. So Israel backed down, leaving the issue exclusively in American hands.

But the US could have saved itself all its negotiation with North Korea and pleading with Russia had it adopted the same policy toward Iranian oil as it has to Iraqi oil, preventing American companies from buying it.

IT'S HARD for money-hungry Russia to refuse Iran's tempting offer to buy four nuclear reactors and provide thousands of unemployed Russian scientists with work in building up the Iranian nuclear capability. But Moscow, desirous of good relations with

oil income comes from US sources - and it wouldn't be able to finance these huge deals if America stopped buying its oil.

This week the chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff revealed that Iran has deployed missiles on an island at the entrance of the Straits of Hormuz. These are US-manufactured Hawk missiles, and the Americans can neutralize them. But tomorrow, or the day after, they could be missiles manufactured elsewhere, if Iran has the funds to buy them.

The key to the safe is in US hands. It is the funds America hands over to Iran in oil deals.

Other countries are using this situation as an excuse for their own deals with the ayatollahs. When the German government was asked to explain its agree-

ment to train Iranian intelligence people and ease payment of Iran's huge debt to Germany, it replied that US companies were also dealing with Iran.

This is also Russia's answer to US demands that it refrain from aiding Iran's nuclear development. And the French, who want to lift the embargo on Iraq, point out that the Iranians are acting as agents for Iraqi oil.

In Jerusalem this week, Chancellor Kohl's representative explained that the German government doesn't believe Iran should be pushed to the wall. That, he said, would only make its position more extreme. On a visit to China and Japan last year, I heard their deputy foreign ministers voice similar opinions.

But this policy of appeasement, which feeds on competition between the industrialized countries, has far from proved itself. It hasn't even borne fruit on humanitarian questions such as the issue of Ron Arad.

The fierce competition for the Iranian market has encouraged the Iraqis, and has also influenced the stance of Hafez Assad, another Iranian ally, toward Israel.

The withdrawal from Somalia, like the industrialized countries' wooing of Iran, has gradually eroded the effect of America's defeat of Iraq in Desert Storm.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEACE CAMPAIGN

Sir, - A Ministry of Education-inspired peace brainwashing campaign is pervading our schools. Math lessons are replaced by peace ceremonies and children are taught songs heralding the dawn of the messianic era ("Here peace has come...") during regular school hours.

I needed to remind my 10-year-old daughter of a few very basic facts, which are not taught:

No hymns celebrating the longed-for peace with Israel are sung by starry-eyed children in Gaza, Cairo or Amman. They are being brainwashed for war.

There is peace because our partners couldn't win the wars and for the time being peace is more expedient.

Terrorist attacks, if not perpetrated, are at least condoned by our peace partners.

My daughter is helping embroider a big "peace carpet" to adorn the school hall. Until the next war or the next minister of education, whichever comes first.

S. GROSSMAN

Karmiel.

'FERDINAND'

Sir, - I want to put in a good word for Ferdinand, the only daily non-political cartoon of The Jerusalem Post. He is now tucked away at the bottom of some inner page and, because of his small size, is mostly overlooked by many of your readers. Why not return Ferdinand to his former four-column size, which he enjoyed for many years, at the top of his page?

JACOB HINDEN

Ramat Gan.

LIVE NEWS

Sir, - A very serious mistake appears in your report (March 2) of the discussion at the Israel Broadcasting Authority's plenum on cuts to short-wave broadcasting.

At no point did the IBA director-general, Mordechai Kirschenbaum, or the head of Israel Radio, Amnon Nadav, accuse news announcers of abusing their professional status and privileges to rally listener support against the proposed cuts. The reference was to certain employees at the English features department, which is entirely separate from the newsroom. In terms of journalistic content and professional administration,

there is no connection whatsoever between the two units.

Contrary to your report, it is simply not true that "the English news will now not be broadcast live until an investigation of the matter has been completed." The Israel Broadcasting executive has full confidence in and is entirely satisfied with the work of the English newsroom. As in the past, it will continue providing a "live" and up-to-date news service.

ZVI LIDAR

Spokesman, Israel Broadcasting Authority

Jerusalem.

HEBRON DIARY

Sir, - I refer to Steve Rodan's article of February 17, "Hebron diary: Observing the TIPH observers." I served in Hebron as a liaison officer to coordinate between the IDF and TIPH from the end of May till the end of June 1994. David Ramati replaced me. Most of the events described by Ramati took place during June, prior to his tour of duty. His firsthand recollections come from secondhand and thirdhand sources at best.

TIPH reports to IDF Liaison were mostly based on local residents' reports, Arabs and Jews alike, and were wholly one-sided and not fully confirmed by a reliable neutral party. To quote from the article: "David: I told the Israeli commander not to shoot into the crowd for fear of injuring the observers." I would like to emphasize that the IDF prides itself on its high moral standards and does not shoot into a crowd.

Regarding the 18-year-old girl in her underclothing whom the platoon commander paraded at gunpoint through the neighborhood as a method of punishment, this incident took place a month before Ramati's arrival and his description could not be further from the truth.

As for the TIPH report of settlers shooting at war tanks of Arab homes, the incident's description was greatly exaggerated by the locals and was not verified by an independent party. Having personally conducted the investigation into the matter (two weeks prior to Ramati's arrival), I resent any attempt by Ramati to link the settlers to the army.

Ramat Hasharon.

JERRY LIVSON

UN leaves Somalia; US, Italians follow

THE last UN peacekeepers abandoned anarchy in Somalia yesterday, closely followed by US and Italian marines who left Mogadishu seaport and headed for the beaches.

Witnesses said the marines moved out of the seaport in a convoy for the nearby beaches as shots and explosions thundered near their route and Super Cobra helicopter gunships screamed overhead.

The firing was apparently a mixture of warning shots, fired by the marine force as it pulled back, and shooting from Somali gunmen keen to seize and loot the seaport and nearby airfield.

Somali militiamen brandishing rifles and rockets massed in streets outside the port and airport as the departure of the last

AIDAN HARTLEY
MOGADISHU

foreign troops drew near, ending two years of bloody and costly military intervention.

There were no immediate reports of casualties as the pullout reached its most dangerous phase. A US Marine shot and killed a Somali who fired a rocket-propelled grenade towards US lines on Wednesday.

The departure by ship of the UN rearguard of 1,500 Pakistani troops ended a failed UN mission to bring food and peace to the shattered Horn of Africa country that cost the lives of 132 peacekeepers and billions of dollars.

Operation United Shield to evacuate the UN troops brought US marines back to the very

beaches where they landed in December 1992 to help end a famine in Operation Restore Hope.

The last of 1,800 US marines and 400 Italian soldiers who landed on Tuesday to protect the pullout by the Pakistanis were expected to leave from the beaches on amphibious vehicles to reach a flotilla of 32 warships off Mogadishu.

US officers expected trouble after they left the seaport following hours of chaos, gunfire and looting after UN Pakistani troops left the nearby seaport on Wednesday.

Many experts predict clan warfare between militias after Somalia is abandoned to their fate. Mogadishu is the high-risk zone but fighting could spread to relatively peaceful provincial areas.

Mandela: No defending Winnie

Estranged wife returns to S. Africa to face ouster calls

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President Nelson Mandela vowed yesterday not to interfere with a police investigation of his estranged wife, Winnie, on allegations of bribe-taking and influence-peddling.

As prominent officials took their distance from her, speculation was rife that the controversial Mrs. Mandela would eventually be forced out of her post as deputy minister of arts, culture, science and technology.

"This is a matter between the police and the deputy minister," Mandela told reporters. "It would be improper for me to interfere with the police in carrying out their duties. I would not interfere even if they raided my own house."

The African National Congress reissued a code of conduct stating "any form of proven corruption shall constitute a legitimate ground for instant dismissal from government."

Mandela said no decision would be made until the allegations were proven. Mrs. Mandela is to meet Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, who has dealt with other crises involving her, when he returns tomorrow from the United States.

The allegations of corruption against Mrs. Mandela are the most serious so far against a member of the government, formed after the ANC won the nation's first all-race election last April.

As calls mounted for her ouster, Mrs. Mandela cut short a visit to West Africa and flew home Thursday. She refused to speak to reporters at the airport, but gave a clenched-fist salute to about 100 cheering supporters.



Winnie Mandela is escorted through the airport after her arrival in Johannesburg yesterday. Police are investigating her for alleged bribe-taking and influence-peddling. (AP)

A Mercedes-Benz whisked her to the Johannesburg Supreme Court, where a judge ruled that documents seized at her home during searches Wednesday would remain under court control pending a hearing today. Mrs. Mandela emerged looking relaxed and was driven to her Soweto mansion.

Before leaving Abidjan, Ivory Coast, she accused police of trying to discredit her with allegations that she received bribes from a building company in exchange for a contract to build low-income housing.

Police alleged that Mrs. Mandela received 75,000 rand (\$21,000) from the company,

Professional Builders, and was to receive 32,000 rand (\$9,000) more each month. Police also alleged she planned to take control of the firm through shares owned by her daughter, Zinzi, and a physician.

Prosecutors will eventually determine whether to bring charges.

Italian court indicts ex-premier Andreotti on mob charges

PALERMO, Sicily (AP) — Ex-Premier Giulio Andreotti, Italy's leading post-war statesman, was indicted yesterday for allegedly consorting with the Mafia.

The court set a trial date for September 26 in Palermo, said an aide to Judge Agostino Grisina.

The 76-year-old Andreotti, seven times a head of government, becomes the most senior Italian official ever to face trial on Mafia charges.

Prosecutors have built their case around testimony from Mafia turncoats and former members of Andreotti's scandal-de-

stroyed Christian Democrat party.

The proceedings could peer deeper into the alleged bonds between the Mafia and the Christian Democrats, which dominated Italy's postwar politics until corruption probes wiped it out last year.

Andreotti, a senator-for-life who has waived his parliamentary immunity from prosecution, vigorously denies the accusations and takes credit for leading a crusade to cripple the mob. He insists he is the victim of a vendetta designed to discredit his five de-

cades in politics.

"We will be ready for trial when it comes," said defense attorney Franco Coppi. "It's not a sentence. We will face the decision. There's nothing else to say also because there's no justification," he said.

The judge left the hearing room without immediately commenting.

The defense has presented letters signed by Andreotti in the 1980s ordering a full-scale effort to capture the reputed "boss of bosses" of the Sicilian Mafia, Salvatore "Totò" Riina.

Volunteers search for Grozny's unburied dead

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Relatives and teams of volunteers combed through the rubble of the bombed-out Chechen capital yesterday in a search for bodies of thousands of soldiers and civilians killed in the battle for Grozny.

In a copse next to a Russian cemetery in northern Grozny, about 400 bodies lay heaped in three large open pits, awaiting mass burial unless they're identified.

"The body of a young woman lay at the bottom of one pit, an arm resting across her head, next to other corpses, charred beyond recognition. The body of an elderly woman lay on a blood-stained stretcher at the edge of the open grave. A tattoo on the bare back of a man lying alongside the grave declared: 'God is with us.'"

Empty rocket casings littered the ground. A statue of a square-jawed Soviet soldier stood nearby, a memorial to the dead in World War II.

The scene was too much for 38-year-old Zura Matsyeva, who husband, Zayendi, disappeared more than two weeks ago. She came to see if he was among the unclaimed dead at the open graves, first seen by journalists last weekend.

Dressed in black, fear etched on her face and tears welling in her eyes, Matsyeva said, "I've been looking for my husband for four days now — I don't know whether he is dead or alive."

Ramzan, Matsyeva's 17-year-old son who accompanied her from rebel-held southern Chechnya, held a scarf to his face to ward off the stench of decay.



Sheryl Crow holds three Grammy awards that she won for Record of the Year, Best Female Pop Vocal Performance and New Artist. (AP)

Springsteen, 'Streets of Philadelphia' win four Grammys

LOS ANGELES — Bruce Springsteen became the first rock songwriter ever to sweep the Grammy and Oscar best song competitions when his poignant, AIDS-related "Streets of Philadelphia" was named song of the year Wednesday in the 37th annual Grammy Awards ceremony.

In nationally televised ceremonies at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, "Streets of Philadelphia" was also named best rock song and best song written for a motion picture or television.

Springsteen's recording of it was also honored for best male rock vocal.

Accepting the first of his four Grammys, the 45-year-old New Jersey native thanked "the folks who have come up to me in restaurants and on the street who have lost their sons or their lovers or their friends to AIDS and said that the song meant something to them."

Written for Jonathan Demme's 1993 film, *Philadelphia*, Springsteen's composition won last year's Oscar for best song. The reason the song was honored in different years is that the Oscars' eligibility period covers the calendar year, while the Grammys' period runs from October 1 through September 30.

The Grammy's biggest surprise was when Springsteen's recording of the song lost to newcomer Sheryl Crow's frisky *All I Wanna Do* in the best single record competition.

Crow, 32, a Missouri native who spent years as a bar-band and backup singer before making her album debut last year, was also honored as best new artist and best female pop vocalist.

But the winner in the best album category was a predictable

one: sentimental favorite Tony Bennett, who won his fifth Grammy for his MTV *Unplugged* collection.

"This is the greatest moment in my whole musical career and the greatest moment in my life," said Bennett, 68, who won his first Grammy 32 years ago for his recording of "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

Other key winners included Boyz II Men, best R&B album and R&B group vocal; Babyface, R&B male vocal and R&B song; Soundgarden, best hard rock and metal recordings; and Mary Chapin Carpenter, country album and female country vocal.

Once again in balloting covering 87 categories, the 8,000 voting members of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences turned frequently to former winners.

By picking up one and two awards, respectively, composer John Williams and conductor Pierre Boulez moved into a sixth-place tie with Paul Simon and Leonard Bernstein on the list of all-time Grammy winners, with 16 awards each. Williams' *Schindler's List* won in the instrumental composition for a motion picture or television category.

Vince Gill won in the male vocal country category for the third time in five years.

In jazz, Herbie Hancock won his fifth Grammy for his contribution to the album *A Tribute to Miles*.

Other '50s and '60s acts joining the Rolling Stones (rock album) in winning their first Grammys were Pink Floyd, rock instrumental; Booker T. & the MG's, pop instrumental, and R&B great Etta James, jazz vocal.

Los Angeles Times

Prosecutors attack O.J. alibi witness

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Prosecutors yesterday attacked the credibility of a potential key defense witness for O.J. Simpson.

Rosa Lopez, a former housekeeper who used to live next door to Simpson and who could supply the former football star with an alibi, returned to the witness stand yesterday for the final minutes of direct examination from the defense.

The native of El Salvador repeated her most important testimony: she clearly saw Simpson's Ford Bronco parked outside his house at about the time prosecutors say his ex-wife and her friend were being murdered on the night of June 12.

Lopez also testified that she had been inside Simpson's house before the slayings, once helping his sick maid by making Simpson's bed.

Prosecutors then began questioning Lopez. Prosecutor Christopher Darden began pressing her about why she filed to collect unemployment insurance at a time she was insisting that she intended to leave the country.

In an unusual procedure, Lopez is testifying on videotape, without the jury present, because she has threatened to flee to El Salvador to escape media harassment. If she leaves, the testimony could be shown to the jury when the defense presents its case.

Also yesterday, Judge Lance Ito was expected to decide whether to punish the defense for violating state evidence-sharing laws by withholding a tape of an interview with Lopez.

Defense lawyers apologized for what they called an innocent oversight. Robert Shapiro offered to be held in contempt if necessary to protect his client.

In Lopez's first statement to a defense investigator, she never mentioned seeing the Bronco shortly after 10 p.m., prosecutors say.

Lopez's return to the witness stand comes after prosecutors succeeded in ousting a black juror, apparently because they thought he was biased toward Simpson. Michael Knox, a 46-year-old courier, was the subject of numerous complaints over several weeks that culminated in a dispute during the jury's visit to Simpson's estate.

He was replaced Wednesday by one of the nine remaining alternate jurors: a 38-year-old white woman who works for a phone company and once described herself as a "touchy, feely" person.

Knox was the fourth juror in the case to be removed. The jury now consists of eight women and four men. Racially, it consists of eight blacks, two whites, one Hispanic and one mixed-race juror.

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Russia shocked over assassination of TV star

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russia was in a state of shock yesterday after a gunman shot dead a popular and powerful television star in what appeared to be a contract killing with big business and political overtones.

President Boris Yeltsin, leading a national outpouring of grief over the slaying of Vladislav Listyev, sacked Moscow's police chief and prosecutor and pledged to revive the crusade against organized crime.

Listyev was by far the highest-profile person to be assassinated in Russia since Yeltsin became president in June 1991 and hammered home the extent to which crime has permeated every level of society in the wake of economic reforms.

The 38-year-old anchorman of a highly popular news talk show, who was also the key player in the launch next month of a new-look version of Russia's main television channel, was killed late on Wednesday on returning to his Moscow apartment.

"The killing of Vladislav Listyev is a mafia ritual to show that they can do anything in this country," said Eduard Sagalayev, head of Russian commercial channel TV-6.

Politicians and Listyev's colleagues linked his killing to the



Vladislav Listyev

impending shake-up in state television, many tying it to the multi-million-dollar TV advertising revenues which appear to have been threatened by recent policies.

"Vladislav Listyev... crossed the path of someone whose income was based on the illegal sale of advertising time," reformist politician Yegor Gaidar told Ekho Moskvy radio.

Leading television journalist Yevgeny Kiselyov quoted police as saying two men had carried out what was undoubtedly a contract killing. The documents he was carrying had not been taken.

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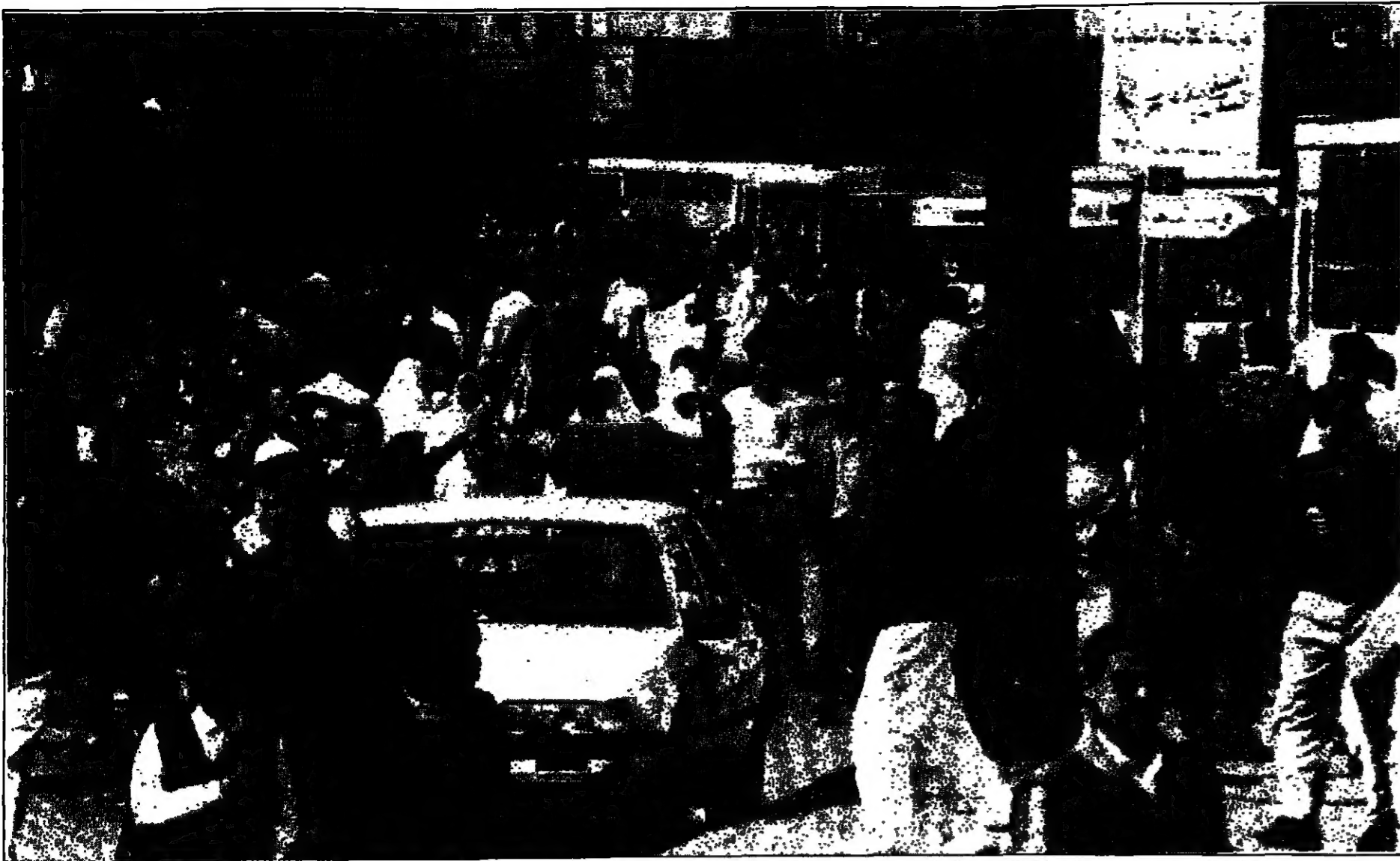
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Information and Public Relations



Sixteen years after the peace treaty, people on the streets of Cairo will call an Israeli 'brother' and then tell him his government stinks. (AP)

A new kind of Egyptian-Israeli peace

IT is easy to forget that Israel and Egypt have been at peace for nearly two decades. The Israeli-Egyptian peace has gone through three distinct phases. Phase 1 was when an Israeli could hitch a ride on a troop carrier from Cairo to the Suez Canal, and hear Egyptian sailors cry "Menachem Begin is a great man." Egyptian self-confidence was high.

Phase 2, which lasted from the invasion of Lebanon in June 1982 to Oslo in 1993, was the "cold peace" that trickled down from the Egyptian rulers and spoiled personal relations with visiting Israelis. Hosts tried to hide the identity of their Israeli guests, and Egypt felt isolated in the Arab world.

In phase 3, post-Oslo, Israeli-Egyptian relations have reached the point where people in the street will now call you "brother," and then tell you your government stinks. Normalization has arrived, at least by Middle East standards. Egypt is reasserting its authority and Israel is its main rival.

Israel's position on nuclear weapons and the stumbling peace with Palestinians - punctuated by bombing raids in Lebanon - led media reports much of the month.

The ill wind had clearly reached the police guards at the central government building in Cairo last week.

"Ah, yes, Israel is very bad. It does not want peace," Sgt. Maher said to me before inviting me into a pillbox for a glass of tea after *ifrah*, the evening Ramadan meal.

The key change is that, where-

Egypt now sees Israel as playing by the rules of the region - its policies determined entirely by the power struggle, Jon Immanuel reports from Cairo

as Egypt used to feel Israel was driven by an "irrational" Masada, Samson or Holocaust complex, it now chooses to see in its policies pure Middle East power play, a great tribute to Israel's integration.

When Foreign Minister Amr Moussa visited here recently, he refused to visit Yad Vashem, an insult to Israel's deepest sensitivities, but also part of Egypt's policy of treating Israel as just another state.

Egypt itself may be developing its own complexes - a Pharaoh's complex, perhaps. The *New York Times* Thomas Friedman tried to explain Egyptian obstinacy over the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as jealousy of Israel's growing influence in the region at Egypt's expense. The article was, needless to say, bitterly attacked in the Cairo press. An Israeli diplomatic official commented: "It's not the whole story, but there is something to it."

There is no doubt that Egypt has come to perceive Israel as an active competitor in the region - therefore an insider.

Israel is no longer dependent on Egyptian patronage to make its way in the New Middle East, and its actions are resented in that light.

From the Egyptian point of view, it is absurd that a country

which it believes possesses 200 nuclear warheads should not sign the NPT, while Egypt is being told by the US to commit itself in perpetuity.

Egypt cannot take seriously Israeli fears that it cannot reveal its nuclear capability because it is still under threat of destruction. This stance belongs to the age of "complexes."

Egypt's fragility, on the other hand, is also evident from the presence of electronic scanning devices to deter Islamic extremists at the entrance to major buildings.

The extent to which Israel is seen as a rival in the Arab world is surprising. An editorial in the opposition *Al-Wafd* daily on February 19 said: "Israel refuses to have a powerful neighbor which might become the nucleus of Arab power, ideology and wealth. We, however, refuse to allow Israel to force its policies on us."

The tone is angry, but the language is one of straightforward political rivalry which might apply just as easily to Syrian or Iraqi claims to leadership of the region.

Tahseen Bashir, a former deputy chairman of the Arab League, said in an interview that among the things that particularly galled the Egyptians were Prime Minister Rabin's com-

ments a month ago that Israel must be prepared for war in the long-term. Rabin made the comment in response to a question at a symposium about Israel's army in an era of peace.

"Why is Rabin threatening to go to war? War has become meaningless. This went down very negatively with Egypt domestically. There was an effect and a response, and it became a dynamic of bad dialogue. Many people who were anti-peace thought this was the end of peace," Bashir said.

As a result of the "war-cries" the dispute over the NPT proliferated into a battle of words, he maintained. "It should have been reserved for serious dialogue. It's an issue about which most of the writing has been uninformed. Every little difference became very dark," Bashir said.

Differences descended to a personal level on both sides. Among other things, *The Jerusalem Post* was banned in Egypt, supposedly because of a cartoon or a piece that appeared on its op-ed page. "Your newspaper is translated into Arabic. The opposition attacks it. Then we get into fights. Who needs that?" commented Bashir.

Remarkably, however, despite the widespread anger concerning what Egyptians consider Israeli power plays on nuclear arms, the

peace process, bombing raids in Lebanon, and Israeli influence in the US, press reports are relatively balanced on the political pages of the main papers.

But anti-Jewish material finds its way into religious commentaries. On the last Friday of Ramadan, a regular "spiritual talk" column of the English-language government daily, *The Egyptian Gazette*, described Jews as "arrogant," "unbelieving," "faithless," "corrupt," "hated" and "only interested in money and power." Three days earlier, the writer charged that the "Satanic" Talmud gave Jews "the right to capture the lands of anyone."

As journalists waited last week for Moussa and Foreign Minister Peres to end four hours of fruitless NPT talks, one Israeli diplomat commented: "Sometimes these articles incite more, sometimes less. We are concerned about it, but we don't make official complaints. We limit ourselves to political issues."

Even ancient issues can be political. As Pessah approaches, Israel must decide whether to invite Egyptian government officials to a reception commemorating the decimation of the Egyptian army.

In the past, Israeli ambassadors consulted the rector of Al-Azhar University, the seat of Islamic learning, who told them to go ahead. "The Egyptian rulers should know what happens when they defy the word of God."

This year, when even the chief imam of Al-Azhar Mosque is under suspicion as a closet Islamic radical, such consultations may not go down too well at the presidential palace in Heliopolis.

Lull in terrorism: Is it temporary?

Defense officials say the drop in terrorism since Beit Lid is only a tactical ploy by the Palestinians, Steve Rodan reports

EVERY Thursday morning at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv, senior officials and IDF commanders gather for their weekly review.

After one recent session, someone wondered aloud about how quiet Palestinian terrorists have been lately. "Shh," replied a defense official, raising a finger to his lips and then rapping his knuckles twice on a large wooden desk.

It's a feeling being expressed in an increasing number of meetings and forums in which ministers, parliamentarians and officials discuss security issues.

They want to know why Palestinians have not succeeded in any major terrorist operations since January 22, when 21 people were killed in a double suicide bombing by Islamists at the Beit Lid junction near Netanya.

Security officials have been surprised at the quiet passing of Ramadan, during which they expected an upsurge in violence.

Likud MK Moshe Nissim wanted the view of Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak at Tuesday's session of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Shahak, according to the participants, chose his words carefully.

"The scope of the terrorist incident at Beit Lid shocked not only us but the Palestinians," Shahak reportedly said. "They are resting on their laurels."

Privately, defense officials agree. They cite several reasons for the lull in terrorism. One is their assessment that Hamas and Islamic terrorists are reorganizing. The attack on Beit Lid might have raised their stock in the territories, but it also brought them close to a clash with Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat.

Defense officials, basing their assessments on intelligence briefings, say Hamas' and Islamic Jihad have decided not to "press their luck." Their aim is not to spark a revolt against Arafat, but to erode his support until he is little more than a figurehead.

MAJ.-GEN. Danny Rothchild, the outgoing government coordinator for the territories, recalls how a Hamas leader explained his movement's approach.

"We won't shoot the head of the pyramid," the Hamas leader told Rothchild. "Look at what happened in Egypt. They knocked off [President Anwar] Sadat and got somebody much worse. Our way is to win the support of the populace and then the head will be toppled through democratic means."

Defense officials say Hamas' low profile is similar to its behavior in the months following Arafat's arrival in June. Then, too, Islamic groups trod carefully, shunning earlier spectacular terror bombings on Israeli buses.

They probed Arafat's reaction, first to the killing of suspected Israeli collaborators within Gaza and then by shooting attacks against soldiers and settlers.

By October, intelligence sources say, Islamic groups concluded that Arafat would tolerate a terror campaign. At that point, preparations began for large-scale attacks, such as the bombing of a No. 5 bus in Tel Aviv on October 21 and the explosions at Beit Lid three months later.

Senior defense officials say Arafat has taken his first serious steps to stop Islamic terrorism since the Beit Lid attack. After trying to sweet-talk Hamas, they say, Arafat has quietly sent the message that he will not tolerate any sort of attack that delays Is-

raeli implementation of its agreement to withdraw the army from the Arab towns and cities of Judea and Samaria.

Arafat acknowledged this to the Israelis at a meeting with Prime Minister Rabin on February 9, a senior defense official says. "He said that in the first period after his arrival, which he didn't define, he tried to tempt Hamas," the official recalls. "It didn't work, he said, and now he's really doing something."

At the meeting, the official recalls, Arafat's chief aide Nabil Shaath added he was surprised by Arafat's candor and confirmed the new policy. "I looked in their eyes and I didn't think it was staged," the official says.

Senior military sources agree that Arafat is trying to stop terrorism his way. He has allowed his aides to increase security cooperation with the IDF and security services. These include joint operations to stop infiltration from the Sinai and locate sabotage material. IDF commanders say that during the last few weeks the army and PA police have found 160 anti-tank mines smuggled into Gaza.

Arafat, the military sources agree, has made stopping Hamas attacks a priority. But, they add, he is doing virtually nothing against members of Hamas or Islamic Jihad.

In other words, the sources say, Arafat's secret police have managed to scuttle plans by Islamic terrorists to plant bombs on Israeli buses and shopping centers. Few arrests have been made, however, and none of the detained has been prosecuted.

ANOTHER REASON for the lull in terrorism is the increased effort of Israeli security services, defense officials say. The closure has made it easier for police and the GSS to spot Palestinians residing illegally in Israel.

The arrest of more than 1,500 suspected Hamas activists has enabled security forces to uncover several terrorist cells.

But officials say that Hamas and Islamic Jihad are proving resistant to the Israeli security measures.

"They're hard to break," one official says. Also, don't forget that we're dealing with suicide bombers. If they're not scared to die, you think they're scared of the GSS?"

Few in the military or security services believe the lull in terrorism is permanent. Officials cite several major bombing attacks against Jewish targets in the Gaza Strip, the latest one on Wednesday near Netzarim in which nobody was injured.

Officials say Arafat has set a goal - to provide a period of calm in which Israel will agree to implement an IDF redeployment in the territories. At that point, they say, without an army presence, terrorism will skyrocket.

Such an assessment was relayed by IDF Intelligence research division head Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, who last week appeared before a committee headed by Police Minister Moshe Shaleh that is to recommend how to implement separation between Palestinians and Israelis.

"The message we're getting is that the current cooperation between us and the Palestinians is tactical, to get us to withdraw," a senior defense official says. "And once we do, in terms of security, an IDF redeployment would be a catastrophe."

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מכאן השמאל

Two female MKs: One to the left, one to the right

MKs Tamar Gozansky and Limor Livnat tell Sasha Sadan how they got into politics, albeit on different ends of the spectrum

TAMAR Gozansky spots this reporter in the Knesset, comes forward, and opens her arms. The gesture rings true when she explains how she became a communist.

Gozansky is one of three MKs from the Democratic Movement for Peace and Equality (known by its Hebrew acronym, Ha-dash), and one of seven women holding a seat in the Knesset.

"My mother was always bringing people into the house who needed help and she gave it to them, whether it was food, or a kind word or some kind of financial assistance. There were always people coming in."

Home was a two-room apartment in Tel Aviv. Gozansky shared one room with her brother and her grandmother. Her parents had a fold-up bed in the room that also served as kitchen, dining area and living room.

Gozansky's father was a building worker and later a technician for the Housing Ministry, and her mother worked as a waitress and continued to work, all her life in fact, even when there was no economic need for it.

In 1954, when she was 14, Gozansky joined the Young Communist League, moving left from her Mapai parents. "In those years youth were very political, not like today. It was after World War II and socialism seemed to be the force of change. Capitalism seemed stuck."

"Socialism seemed to be the way the world was going. I grew up with parents, especially my mother, who had great respect for the value of work and a sense of one's obligation to society. I was educated with the idea of giving, that what was important was to give, not to receive."

After high school, Gozansky studied at a teachers' seminary; there was a shortage of teachers and it was a way to get an education. At 20, she married and went to Leningrad with her husband, also a party activist, on a scholarship to study political science.

She returned to Israel to work

for the party, in various jobs, both in the field and in tasks involving writing. "I made sure I wrote as much as possible and published two books, which is all that my time allowed me. This was combined with lots of work in the community, things you did every day. Politics to me was what you did every day. I was always in the neighborhoods. I was never cut off."

She said she started to appear on the party's list of candidates for the Knesset, but not in a place with a chance of being elected. "Towards the end of the 1980s my place on the list started to get close to something real - still not there though, and then in 1990 MK Tewfik Toubi quit, and I got his place and then I was elected to the Knesset, in my own right, in 1992."

When Gozansky finally entered the Knesset, the party's ideological stance was challenged by the breakup of the Soviet Union. "We were pushed into a corner. And suddenly when you can get out, you don't rush so fast to do it. It was safe and protected in that corner."

She didn't feel that as a woman she had to fight harder than the other MKs. "It's different in the Knesset. Also in the party. I also didn't feel held back because I was a woman. I personally didn't feel that. Of course, there is the problem of equal representation, in my party and others. Few women are in the upper echelon. And I do blame institutions inside parties that don't do enough to advance women."

But she says it was different when she was young and in her twenties.

"Israel in the Fifties and Sixties wasn't the age of feminism but of social consciousness. There were women's organizations, Na'amat and WIZO, but they weren't feminist as we understand the term today."

"I'm a feminist now. But I got there through politics. Other women get to politics via their feminism. When you start deal-



Gozansky (left): I didn't feel held back in politics because I was a woman; Livnat: What I want is not equality between the sexes but equal opportunity.



involved with another activist. When they married 15 years ago, he said: "Don't ever run for the Knesset. Just don't do that."

But then in 1986, when her industrialist husband returned from abroad, he said he had come to the conclusion that she ought to run, and she had as much to offer as any other candidate. "We were in a restaurant and we wrote out on a napkin how we thought we should go about it."

There was a tradition in the party, she says, to have one token woman close to a real place on the party list. But she didn't make it. MK Miriam Glazer-Ta'asa ran against her, and they split the votes their peers gave to a woman candidate. In 1992, her party activism paid off. She got more votes than half a dozen men who were far more in the public limelight.

Livnat says she was sort of a feminist when she entered the Knesset in 1992. "Now when I look back at what happened to me over all those years, and I think about why I really didn't start getting any place until 1988, then, yes, I feel very feminist, and what I want is not equality between the sexes but equal opportunity." That's what I didn't have, she said.

She says affirmative action is needed in order to effect real change, and to get women equal representation on party lists.

Saying this, she picks up a newspaper from her desk and quotes an interview of last week in which former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir said women Knesset members have to be twice as good in order to compare with their male colleagues.

Livnat thrusts the paper down. "That's feminism, exactly, the recognition that it's not enough for a woman to be as good as a man to get a fair chance."

The most important thing that can be done for women now, she says, is to get women fair representation in places where decisions are made, to make them visible in every place - in the Knesset, in the civil service, on the directorates of public companies, wherever decisions are being made. "Then we can influence what happens on the national agenda."

"No less critical is education and raising consciousness. We live in a world where men and women are believed to have set roles. That stereotype has to be broken. And the only way to do that is through education."

ing with social issues and with injustice, you see that it's always happening to women."

It was her mother's influence, says Gozansky, which led her to believe that women are responsible for their own advancement. "If you have a problem, fix it and don't wait for others to do it," her mother would say.

So Gozansky says in the Knesset she didn't wait for someone to advance her. "I went to work on the problem of day-care, and then I saw that the whole subject of preschool education was neglected and I created a joint committee on this subject. It was the first time someone from my party has headed a Knesset panel."

As a dyed-in-the-wool Marxist, Gozansky says that revolutionary change won't come readily in Israeli society because of two inviolable interests. "There are two subjects in the Knesset on which there is a true national consensus,

and I don't mean territory. I'm talking about things that you're not allowed to touch. One is religious coercion. Sometimes the religious drive the Knesset wild, but as for doing something counter to them, you can't."

The property class, she said, are the other problem. This consensus affects the ability of lawmakers to pass laws on women's rights, such as abortion. "I've tried three times to pass a bill which would allow abortion for sociological reasons. This would enable a woman to have an abortion because she wants one."

Another important concern of Gozansky is women's job status. "As long as women's earnings are considered a second income in the family, it's going to be hard to get change. I see it all the time in terms of firings. Women's work is cheap."

Employers look for cheap labor and offer the minimum wage

or less, she notes. A man won't take it, she said, because he figures he will find better choice elsewhere. But the woman won't.

A DECADE younger than Gozansky, MK Limor Livnat (Likud) grew up in a comfortable middle-class home in Ramat Gan. Though her father was a public figure, a member of the Irgun Zva'i Leumi, it was her mother, Shulamit Livnat, a singer, who had celebrity status.

Her daughter was bitten by a bug for politics while studying at Tel Aviv University. As an activist in campus politics for Gahal (the mix of Herut and the Liberal Party), Livnat became friends with half a dozen classmates who were destined to become MKs, such as Ronni Milo and the late Micha Reiser. But she says she never considered running for office.

"I had a mental block. I think

it was a lack of self-confidence. I just didn't see myself in that role," Livnat says.

After she earned a degree in literature and worked in public relations, "the most grave thing that can happen to a young woman happened to me. I got married."

The marriage ended four years later and, looking back, Livnat says she was performing in a way that just wasn't her. "I tried to be the kind of wife you were supposed to be. I really tried to fulfill what I thought was expected of me, to entertain, to bake cookies and cakes. And I was sociable, having people over and going to them. Now and then I was involved in some kind of political activity, but I didn't let it get exaggerated. I didn't allow myself to."

After the divorce, she became increasingly involved in political activities and romantically in-

Why more women are not in

WOMEN in this country have been consistently underrepresented both in elected office and in appointed service, except in the judiciary, says political scientist Susan Harris Roloff, relating to an analysis by MK Naomi Chazan of women in Israeli politics.

Eleven women were elected among the 120 members of the First Knesset, and there are 11 in the Knesset now. Though the number rose to a record 12 in 1955 and dipped to a low of seven in 1988, Roloff says that "Israel's system of extreme proportional representation gives the parties and their caucuses a good deal of power. Traditionally, these structures have always blocked women."

The system has encouraged a multiplicity of parties and so every government has consisted of a coalition and tended to strengthen the religious parties "which are generally opposed to the participation of women in the political system."

Roloff notes that other small parties, such as those identifying as Arab parties, have also not encouraged women to enter politics. Moreover, she says, the resurgence of a center-to-right-of-center in the 1970s has had an influence, since women are less active there than to the left of the political spectrum.

"The ways in which politicians enter national politics in Israel have also tended to block women," Roloff says. Women may be involved in student politics, but usually they get married and settle down, rather than throw their hats into the ring, while their male age-peers gather experience. "Politics," she says dryly, "is a time-consuming career."

While some men go into politics after being high-ranking army officers, "no woman has entered national politics in this way," Roloff notes. Also, there aren't many high-ranking women officers.

Party primaries might seem to offer a bright hope, but Roloff notes that they require three things women rarely have in abundance: money, public exposure and organizational backing. S.S.

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Winter/Summer Vacationing in Grindelwald

BY BARBARA COOPER

GRINDELWALD is one of the few holiday resorts which is fascinating all year round. Located in the Bernese Oberland, 25 km. southeast of Interlaken, in the heart of the famous Jungfrau Region, Grindelwald lies at the foot of the awesome Wetterhorn. A high, secluded Alpine village in a magnificent, sun-drenched valley, it is dotted with charming hand-hewn chalets.

The main attraction of Grindelwald is its 300 km. network of hiking and mountain paths, embracing one of the most beautiful of all Alpine regions. To spare you the more difficult climbs or descents, tours can be combined with time-saving trips on the mountain bus and rail routes.

Grindelwald has been popularized as "the Village of the Glaciers" because of the breathtaking glaciers that reach from the high mountain gorges almost to the valley floor. In no other region of central Europe are glaciers so easily accessible as they are here. The mystic beauty of the Blue Ice Grotto and the wild romanticism of the Glacier Gorge are unforgettable experiences.

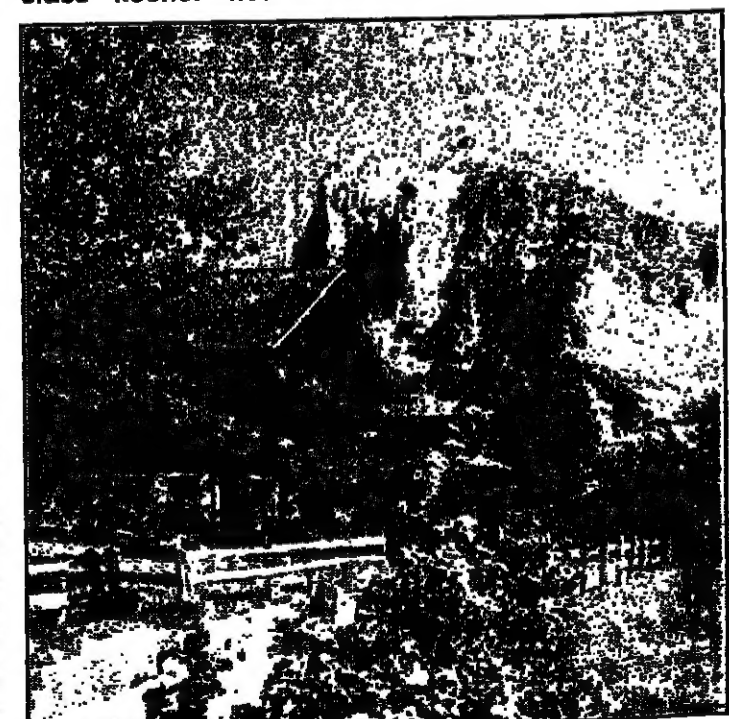
The history of Grindelwald is recorded as far back as 1146, when King Konrad granted his protection to the Augustiner Monastery. The decisive turning point in its economic life occurred in 1881 with the appearance of its first skier, an Englishman named Gerald Fox. He was soon followed by the English nobility, Russian grand dukes, royals and artists from all over the world. Today, tourists and ski lovers can enjoy what was appreciated in bygone days by nobility, and the number of tourists at times exceeds that of local residents.

Only an 8-minute-walk from the village center is the

Silberhorn Hotel, the only kosher hotel in Grindelwald. Situated in a sunny and quiet location in the midst of a beautiful garden, and enjoying a magnificent view of the Eiger, the hotel is known worldwide for its friendly family atmosphere. Numbered among the top-class kosher hotels in

per person sharing double room.

Swissair stewardesses and crew are experienced and mature and every effort is made to ensure a comfortable, relaxed flight. The competent Swissair crew will assist you in making your connections and will



Europe, its facilities include a sauna, fitness center, jacuzzi, tea room, synagogue and mikve.

The Silberhorn's central location provides an ideal base for tours to Interlaken, the Jungfrau, Bern and Lucerne. Whether you are just a beginner or an advanced skier, there are full on-site skiing facilities to fit your level.

The Silberhorn Hotel and Swissair are offering a convenient travel package to Jerusalem Post readers through March 22, which will include eight days (seven nights), half board, Tel Aviv-Zurich return for US \$1,069

oversee the forwarding of your baggage. To make your trip completely care-free, for only 20 Swiss francs per piece, arrangements can be made with Swissair to check your luggage directly through to your room at the Silberhorn Hotel from Ben-Gurion Airport. You need only identify it at security checks; no other handling is necessary.

When you arrive at the Silberhorn, you will receive a complimentary guest card for the Grindelwald Sports Center, which offers a wide range of leisure activities under one roof: swimming pool/indoor ice rink, table tennis, climbing wall and

games room. Also available to guests are reduced rates for concerts, the local history museum, the Glacier Gorge, mini-golf and tennis courts. Once in Grindelwald, there are activities to suit every taste, including, for the daring, canyoning, bungee-jumping, gorge crossing, river-rafting, snow-surfing, paragliding, cross-country skiing and heli-skiing. More leisure pursuits include excursions in horse-drawn sleighs or mountain walking hikes for walking enthusiasts.

While you ski, the club takes care of your children. They can enjoy themselves sledding, painting or playing games and the children's ski school for ages 3 to 14 years offers group lessons, including ski races and ski tests.

Many special winter events are held at Grindelwald - the World Snow Festival, International Curling Championships, International Lauberhorn Downhill Ski Race, full moon and torch light skiing and tobogganing parties.

Among the summer activities are guided hiking tours (cheese making, wildlife, botanical, full moon) and colorful folklore evenings featuring traditional costumes, music and festivities.

For the shopping enthusiast, there are boutiques, sport and fashion shops, souvenir shops and jewelry stores. At the local history museum, you can learn about the customs of the region, alpine cheese making, mountaineering and the history of winter sports in Grindelwald.

Before returning to Israel, the Silberhorn Hotel will deliver your luggage to the airport and Swissair will check it through to Ben-Gurion Airport; once again you need only identify it for security purposes.

(Communicated)

REMEMBER

what a great day you had last time



See you at The Event, Tuesday, October 10, Succot at the Wingate Institute

Mountainman gets to work

THE new minister's first act was to go to the Western Wall and say "Shehe-heyenu," the prayer for first-time occasions.

Most appropriate, since Shimon Shetreet had just been handed the Religious Affairs portfolio. Blessed indeed for reaching this day after having been a rather persistent thorn in the side of the Lord of Portfolios. Not many ministers get what they want in Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet.

The diligent Shetreet moved from prayer to a working tour of the holy site. No time to waste, with so many burning issues on the back burners of this long-neglected ministry.

Shetreet is the first bareheaded minister — he classes himself "traditional" — in quite some years, in what has long been a religious/haredi bailiwick. In its murky thickets lie halachic tangles and parochial injustices ignored for decades by Orthodox gatekeepers.

Oh dearie me, and what to tackle first?

The rabbinate won't convert those adopted foreign babies. Rabbinical courts let men remarry without their wives' agreement or even knowledge. There are blacklists of thousands of rabbis have disqualified from marrying, dark secrets kept even from the blissfully ignorant victims until right before the wedding. Christians and Moslems? Don't even ask. It's hard enough tiptoeing past Jewish halachic timebombs.

And then there's the Spem Patrol.

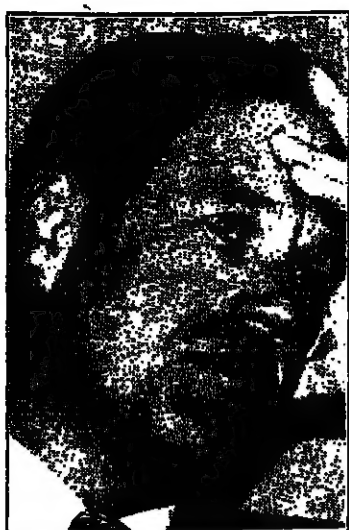
The seminal plan for religious supervisors to ensure that married women are fertilized in-vitro only by their own husbands' seed was conceived before Shetreet took office. Amid the cartoonists' derision in the Hebrew press, he remains tightlipped. He'll "look into it," perhaps see that not just the religious but everyone will get this vital new state service.

Shetreet's appointment was approved by Shas strongman Aryeh Deri, busily dividing his time between the criminal court, the Prime Minister's Office and the radio studios.

This means he can be relied upon not to infuriate Shas with any silly revolutions in religious

THE WEEK THAT WAS

MICHAEL YUDELMAN



Is it still one for all and all for one for Burg (above left) and Labor's two other musketeers? Shetreet (above right), the first bareheaded religious affairs minister in some time, gets Deri's blessing; 'Chich' Lahat (below left) returns to center stage; K joins the GSS alphabet soup parade. (Hendler, Gushmann)



affairs, as Uzi Baram might have done, thus avoiding a place on the dreaded Deri blacklist. Shetreet was born on the slopes of the Atlas Mountains, on the edge of the Sahara. He poetically described himself as "combining the hardness of the mountain-man with the perseverance and endurance of the desert-man. I also have in me the sweetness of the dates on the palm trees there."

But will Mountainman be any



match for Shasman? This redundant ministry was conceived from dubious seed in a political conspiracy to give jobs and goodies to the religious parties. Under Shetreet, will it continue to rubber-stamp millions of shekels to Shas's and other haredi institutions? Will he waste his sweetness on the desert air?

ALPHABET SOUP

C, r u OK 4 GSS? Y? I c! They're changing guard at Buckingham P. And X.Y.Z. went down with K.

We're all agog at the controversy surrounding K, and how he will do after Y, and ah, but do you remember the days of the legendary G?

No, they don't make alphabet soup like they used to. Yes, folks, the General Security Service got a new boss this week.

And the newspapers got a new game to play. Defense writers vied to show off how much they knew about the players in the secret world and avoid the censor's wrath by not naming names. The game was spoiled on Wednesday when the press was allowed to publish Y's identity and photo.

Of course, there wasn't a person in the country who didn't know who he was and what his wife (Ms. E) wore to the last cocktail party.

Now the flamboyant, colorful Y is gone and we must start all over with K.

K may have promise, but his star quality is yet unproven. Juicy tidbits of his part in clearing up the Bus No. 300 Affair are already leaking, as are his reputation for cracking down on Jewish underground groups.

Eat up your alphabet soup, son, or you'll never grow up to be head of the you-know-what.

RETURN OF THE CHICH

Former Big Orange mayor Shlomo (Chich) Lahat stars this week in a scandal-soaked report from the city controller concerning the goings-on at Tel Aviv's Golda Meir Center.

The 300-page report is a juicy bedtime saga of corruption, financial fiddles, lying reports to the city council, gross waste of public funds, improper conduct. Center stage — enter Chich, pursued by demons prophesying criminal charges.

It's a sleazy return for the cocktail-mayor, whose main contribution to the city's fond memories of him was to dub its residents "deserters" for leaving during Saddam's Scud attacks.

Chich loved flashy, extravagant events, and the rich. As his deficit grew so big that the government and banks refused to bail him out with loans, Chich merrily slashed welfare services.

Out went meals-on-wheels for the elderly, the sick and the needy — often their only meal of the day. Let them drink cocktails.

Or let them attend the lushly funded, grand and costly events of a city gone broke: Philharmonic in the park, the new Opera House.

This was music to accompany the bulldozers flattening the one-room shacks housing large families in the slum quarters, or the vibrant multimillion-dollar building excesses of Chich's powerful, rich friends in the Diplomat Hotel and Dizengoff Center.

TROJAN HORSES

By their deeds shall ye know them. But first, a word on their words.

Once upon a time, Haim Ramon, Avraham Burg and Yossi Beilin had three great ideas: dissolve the Histadrut (Ramon); close down the Jewish Agency (Beilin); separate religion from the state (Burg).

You should have heard the ooohs and aahs, everyone wondering how this was, that three young men should have such audacity and vision. We had seen Labor's future, and it was them.

Today, Ramon is Histadrut chairman. This week Burg became Jewish Agency chairman. Beilin? A touch behind, but not doing so badly as a deputy minister in waiting to be a minister.

Now, are they still working together, these valiant musketeers, one for all, all for one?

If so, then Ramon is the Trojan horse disemboweling the Histadrut, and Burg will put Beilin's torch to the Jewish Agency.

But wait! There are all those comfy executive armchairs, fat salaries and juicy expense accounts to be had.

Could "all for one" have become "everyone for himself"? Read Dumas, and weep.

High stakes in Efrat vote

Tuesday's local council vote will decide the settlement's ideological tenor, Herb Keiron reports

EFRAAT is going to the polls Tuesday to select a local council and local council head. What is at stake is not only sewage, parking and education, but also the ideological tenor of the settlement.

A community of some 5,000 people, Efrat has earned a reputation as an affluent bastion of liberal religious Zionism, a most unsettling-like settlement.

It is a community heavy with doctors and lawyers, native English speakers, so-called "quality-of-lifers." "Moderate" is an adjective that often precedes its name in press reports. It is sometimes called the Savoyon of Judea and Samaria.

One of the men instrumental in forming this type of community is Yehonatan Ahimani, the incumbent council head running for a third term in office.

Ahimani's name became familiar to the country in January when the government decided to halt plans to build a neighborhood on a hill known as Givat Hatahar. Ahimani was the boyish-looking, mild-mannered settlement leader who negotiated with the Prime Minister's Office and reached a compromise that bucked the express wishes of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The compromise Ahimani agreed to ensured the expansion of Efrat, though not on Givat Hatahar. By doing this he decided not to fight the government head-on, and did not insist that the government recognize the claims of the settlers to the disputed hill.

His critics said the compromise set a dangerous precedent because the government reneged on permission already given to let Jews build on privately owned land. They cast Ahimani as someone who drove a wedge between Efrat and the rest of the settlements, someone who proved that he cared only about the needs of Efrat, not about the future of the settlement movement.

One of Ahimani's harshest critics then, and a man who for two years has led the Efrat Action Committee, is Rabbi Shimon Golan — the other main local council head hopeful.

The chances of another candidate, Yossi Gaibel, are considered slim, and he himself said on Wednesday he is not 100 percent

sure he will stay in the race. "The Givat Hatahar incident is what compelled me to run," Golan said. "It was symptomatic of the way he [Ahimani] makes decisions. He doesn't work with a team, doesn't consult others."

But the differences between Golan and Ahimani go deeper. Ahimani is a professed moderate and pragmatist, Golan an activist and ideologue. Ahimani believes the settlers must work with the government, regardless of how much they disagree with it; Golan, at least when he headed the Action Committee, was an advocate of fighting the government tooth and nail.

"I don't see Efrat as the settlement that has to symbolize the struggle against the government," Ahimani said. "Efrat is not Kiryat Arba."

"I don't see Rabin as a traitor," he added. "I think he is making a horrible mistake, but I don't think he is a traitor."

Golan, on the other hand, said he doesn't feel Efrat is playing enough of a role in the settlement council, which is leading the fight against the government's policies. Yet, he said, he realizes that as local council head he will have to sit down with representatives of the government and look after the interests of the settlement.

"The idea behind the action committee was that we needed a good-cop, bad-cop situation here," Golan said. "We thought it would be helpful if, alongside Ahimani, there would be a public that is angry and willing to demonstrate." But now, he said, he is willing to go from being the bad cop to being the good one.

Not everyone is convinced the transition is possible. Gaibel, the third candidate in the race who

obviously has his criticisms of both Ahimani and Golan, said he decided to run because "a number of people turned to me and said that, whereas they are not happy with Ahimani's administrative record, they are afraid of Golan." Some people are concerned that Golan would turn Efrat into Kiryat Arba, Gaibel said.

As much as the Givat Hatahar/ideological issues are part of the elections, the main issues remain basically local ones. Why is there no high school in Efrat other than Rabbi Shlomo Riskin's yeshiva that does not accept everyone? Why did Ahimani oppose the establishment of a *torani* elementary school that has proved enormously popular in the community? What administrative experience does Golan have? Why aren't there more permanent synagogue buildings? Why isn't there better security and more parking? And so on.

Ahimani deflects criticism of the community's services, saying that Efrat is a tremendous success and a popular place to live in which — with the exception of Betar — has grown more than any other settlement in Judea and Samaria since 1990. "This is a place where the real-estate values have remained the same, even after Oslo," Ahimani said. "This says something, it says that people want to live here."

Golan hits back by saying things could be better, and that after 10 years it's time for a change, for a new vision. "A new broom sweeps clean." Not so, counters Ahimani, not if the "new broom" has no managerial experience.

And so the campaign in Efrat plays on, like in so many other small-town municipal elections, with rumors spread at the local supermarket, candidates' promises heard at nighty parlor meetings, and mutual recriminations filling sheet after sheet of campaign propaganda stuffed into residents' mail-boxes nearly every day.

Both Ahimani and Golan agree that even though the ideological issues are a constant undercurrent in the campaign, the election will ultimately be decided by the local issues. "What do you expect?" said a candidate on one of the lists who wanted to remain anonymous. "This is Efrat, it is not an ideological place."

Market unpredictability at its best

The stock exchange is likely to continue on its rocky road, Neil Cohen writes

IT'S probably pure coincidence that in early 1975 the British Financial Times Share Index sank to its all-time low of 146 points, a point or so from where the Maof and Mishnatanim, the main indexes of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, stand now.

All is doom and gloom here now and all was doom and gloom there then. Yet it turned out that the darkest period was indeed before the dawn, and the UK market soared from that point.

Faster than fortunes were lost, new ones were made. It seems unlikely the same will happen here now, but unpredictability is the very soul of the market.

For all the moans and groans of investors and the business community, things in Britain were much worse then than they are here now. The market's all-time low followed a property crash and secondary banking crisis in which sizable property companies and a number of banks went to the wall. The Bank of England had to launch a "lifeline" to stave off further crisis.

True, things are not looking up for the Israeli economy right now. Inflation remains stubbornly high, and so far there is no indication that it is falling. As a result, the Bank of Israel has kept interest rates high and companies are feeling the pain. The stock market is quietly forecasting the possible failure of some midsize property companies. It is pricing the bonds of a number of them at levels that indicate it believes they will have difficulty meeting their obligations.

Another nasty surprise that may be in store is an increase in the government's budget deficit. The government is budgeting for its tax revenues to grow commensurate with economic growth of 4 to 5 percent this year. The longer

interest rates stay high and the shekel remains overvalued, the less likely such a growth rate will be achieved.

Unless it cuts expenditure, the government will have to raise taxes or borrow more. With national elections already next year, the first two seem unlikely scenarios. The last would put more strain on an already struggling economy.

As if all these problems were not depressing enough for the stock market, there have been problems closer to Tel Aviv's "city" with which it has had to contend. Evidence and allegations of corruption in the market have refused to go away. Wounds are still fresh from last year's stock-manipulation scandals, and several small investors have accused their banks of inducing them to borrow money they could not afford and take risks they did not understand.

The Bank of Israel has investigated Bank Hapoalim's Arad branch, and sources close to the probe say the results are alarming. At the beginning of this week the nation listened to a tape recording made by a client of Bank Hapoalim's Rehovot branch in which one of the bank's investment advisers seemed to indicate to the client that he was involved

in share manipulation. The Bank of Israel and the Securities Authority are investigating.

Vox populi has had a field day. On Wednesday, MK Meir Sheerit called for trading on the Maof options market to be halted, saying it was a rigged game and responsible for the market's woes. The market's policeman, Securities Authority chairman Arye Mintkevich, rejected the call but agreed there were "criminals" operating in the market. Just the kind of thing to persuade people to invest on the TASE.

And Joe Public has been fleeing anything remotely connected with the stock market. Even provident funds, so long viewed as solid savings for widows and orphans, have been hit by heavy withdrawals in recent weeks. This caused a panic in the bond market and the government.

The bond market, at least, seems to be holding its own, and if it can continue to do so the flood of money leaving the provident funds might dry up and eventually pave the way for the TASE to recover.

Whether by accident or design, the government chose this week to unveil its plans to give us all free options to buy cheap shares in the state-owned firms it has had such difficulty in privatizing.

For a change, the government appears to have made the correct move. Instead of selling the companies at bargain prices to the very few people who can afford a couple of hundred million dollars, it is sharing the bounty with the true owners of the firms — the long-suffering taxpayers.

But it is unlikely that a 500 shekel gift voucher is going to restore people's faith in the stock market. And we are told that we will probably only get our hands on the cash in about a year's time. Not the first time we have been promised jam tomorrow.

5 ONE-DAY TRIPS

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Sunday March 12 **THEOLOGICAL SITES IN JERUSALEM**

Staking a claim in the city holy to Judaism, Christianity and Islam has been accepted practice for centuries. Led by experts, we'll visit a score of sites, explore the history, meet the residents and examine the connection between architecture, theology and the religious establishment. Tour guides: Yoram Zemeret (Islamic Studies, Hebrew U.), Kimm Kaplan (Jewish Thought, Hebrew U.), Dr. Idan Yaron (Monastic Life, Academy of Sciences). Price: NIS 135

Monday March 27 **THE JORDANIAN BORDER OF PEACE**

Led by Ori Dvir, author of the best-selling Nekudot Chen, we'll see history in the making. We'll tour the border region now the center of cooperative efforts, the Sheik Hussein Bridge — bombed in '48 and now rebuilt, Tirat Zvi, Kfar Ruppin, Geon Hayarden, Kfar Hayarden, Hahitranok, the observation post of Hamat Gader — meeting place of the ten cheques they produce, country bread, fresh salad, yogurt and of course, wine. Price: NIS 135

Wednesday April 5 **THE WINE ROUTE**

The ideal tour for the disciples of Bacchus. We'll study the history of wine, compare ancient and modern techniques and sample a few bottles along the way. Accompanied by a vintner, we'll start at Zichron Ya'akov, visit a country winery at Mitze Narashim, see the wine presses on Mt. Meron and for lunch we'll partake of a sumptuous dry meal at Elin Karmazin, famous for its goats and the ten cheeses they produce, country bread, fresh salad, yogurt and of course, wine. Tour Guide: David Eitzan. Price: NIS 150

Sunday April 16 **THE NABATEANS**

They lived in the desert from the 4th century BCE, they stood a chance. They chose to die rather than fall into Roman hands. All except one, their leader Yosef Ben Matityahu, now known as Josephus Flavius. Did he desert his people or did he find another way to serve them, as a historian? We'll visit Yodfat, scene of the battle, now a prosperous Galilee moshav, Zippori — the seat of the Sanhedrin in Talmudic times and home of Judah Hanassi, codifier of the Mishna, the city whose beautiful mosaics and impressive antiquities have been revealed by archaeologists. We'll lunch at Kibbutz Hanaton. Tour Guide: Archaeologist Avner Goren. Price: NIS 145

Wednesday May 10 **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOSEPHUS FLAVIUS**

The battle at Yodfat was terrifying. The Jews didn't stand a chance. They chose to die rather than fall into Roman hands. All except one, their leader Yosef Ben Matityahu, now known as Josephus Flavius. Did he desert his people or did he find another way to serve them, as a historian? We'll visit Yodfat, scene of the battle, now a prosperous Galilee moshav, Zippori — the seat of the Sanhedrin in Talmudic times and home of Judah Hanassi, codifier of the Mishna, the city whose beautiful mosaics and impressive antiquities have been revealed by archaeologists. We'll lunch at Kibbutz Hanaton. Tour Guide: Archaeologist Motti Aviam. Price: NIS 145

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NIS 180 in memory of Stanley B. Ellen-Phyllis Chaney, Heratillya, Pinar.

NIS 140 Mishla Mityan of Ne'uman Industries, J'm.

NIS 100 in memory of Genia Klapholz - Anon, Ra'anna, Sarah Schanda, J'm. In memory of our loved deceased ones - R. and A.S. Nelly Gordon, Ramat Chai, in celebration of my seventh anniversary of Aliza - Elzine Kallit, J'm. R.F., Rehovot.

NIS 60 in memory of our mother, Martha Kugelmann - Marion and Ruth, in memory of our parents - Simcha and Judy Rudman, J'm.

NIS 36 in memory of Sidney Rabinowitz and Joseph Curiel, loving father and grandfather - David Curiel, Hanegev.

NIS 25 in memory of Harriet Chapiro's 70th birthday - Elaine, Amos, Moshe and Rachel Nady.

NIS 118 in memory of our beloved son, Hillel - Rachel and Harry Melsel, W. Bloomfield, MI.

NIS 100 Evelyn Weisrob, Lincolnwood, IL. Joanne Simon, J'm. Anon, Pittsburgh, in memory of two special people who loved Israel - Lois Smith, Benion, AR. In memory of my father, Ben-Zion Rabinowitz - Rhoda Reed Coder, Monterey Park, CA.

NIS 72 in honor of the Bnei Mitzvot of Susan Gerson, Rachel Hall, Brooke Sobel and John Langert - from their friend, Alan, 570 Esther, Silver Spring, MD.

NIS 40 in memory of my mother's birthday, February 22 - Warren Weisbach, Mexico.

NIS 10 in honor of Lilian Zucker of San Leandro, CA - Sylvia Warner, Campco, CA.

NIS 25 Helen and E.W. Woodham, Newport, AR. Joshua and Mariel Shuchatovitz, Baywater, NY. Ellen and Burton Zitzkin, Cranston, RI.

NIS 18 in memory of Irene Wright - Mr. and Mrs. L. Sonenshine, Charleston, SC. In honor of Regina Brill on her 96th birthday - Mr. and Mrs. C. Brill, Los Angeles, CA.

NIS 15 Virginia Randall, Scottsdale, AZ. Can\$15 R. Asper, Winnipeg, Canada.

NIS 100 For love of Israel - Rev. R. and Mrs. Nixon, Northern Ireland.

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DM\$600. Progress: DM\$700.

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The Oleg cartoon that apparently prompted Egypt to ban 'The Jerusalem Post.'



'Rose el-Yusuf' infers an Israeli plot to undermine Egypt's economy by infiltrating it with dummy foreign companies.



'Rose el-Yusuf' shows three Israeli leaders with blood on their hands, accusing them of massacres: Menachem Begin at Deir Yassin, Yitzhak Shamir at Sabra and Shatila (sic), and Yitzhak Rabin at Hebron's Tomb of the Patriarchs.

What mirrors show

SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO RISKIN

"And he set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water there for washing. And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and feet." (Exodus 40:30-3)

BEFORE the priests entered the tent of meeting or approached the altar, they were to wash their hands and feet at the laver. No doing so was a capital offense.

Pekudei, our portion this week, closes the Book of Exodus, and involves a detailed summation of everything God commanded and the architects constructed. It's interesting that the last physical item mentioned in connection with the rituals of the Sanctuary is the laver.

Yet if the Torah wants us to pay particular attention to this washbasin, we must reread its description in last week's portion. "He made the laver of brass, and the base thereof of brass, of the mirrors of the serving women who did service at the entrance of the tent of meeting." (Ex. 38:8).

In Ki Tisa, the Torah doesn't command the women to donate their mirrors. Indeed, the Ibn Ezra calls the contribution a victory of spiritual values over physical vanity. The daughters of Israel wanted to serve God by emphasizing good deeds over good looks. But was it proper for something stained by its emphasis on the profane to become an instrument for the sacred?

According to Rashi, this question bothered Moses. "The daughters of Israel," Rashi writes (38:8), "possessed mirrors which they used to look into when they adorned themselves, and even those they did not withhold from donating to the Sanctuary. When Moses rejected them because they were made to arouse sensual desire, God said: 'Accept them, for these are dearer to me than anything else.'"

Rashi seems to stress that one should not be quick to reject the physical - even sexual - aspect of existence. If anything, Judaism ennobles sex within marriage, which is why *kidushin*, the Hebrew for marriage, is rooted in the word for holy, *kadosh*. When two people become partners with God in creating another person, they are engaging in one of the holiest acts a human being can pursue. So, if a mirror can help facilitate the process, what finer material is there for the sanctification of a priest's hands?

But the issue goes even deeper. According to the *Midrash Tanhuma* cited by Rashi, God explains His love of these mirrors in

even more precise terms: "For by means of these mirrors the women performed their function in Egypt. When their husbands were exhausted from the rigorous work, they would go and bring them food and feed them; and then they would take the mirrors, each one looking at herself together with her husband in the mirror. [The women] would enquire [the men] with the words: 'I am more beautiful than you. And they cohabited with them and conceived.'"

I believe there lies yet another lesson in the sanctity of the mirrors. The Hebrew word for mirror, *mar'a*, has the very same letters as *mar'e*, appearance. We are more than what a mirror reflects. After all, the mirror does not show our memories and aspirations, our dreams and fears. And every time the priest would sanctify his hands and look in the mirror, he would be inspired to reflect not only on his own face, but on the faces of all the people who would be seeking atonement.

The people who visited the Sanctuary most often came in search of atonement, dragging guilt and sin offerings. How easy to forget the individual behind the offering, that one who commits a sin is not necessarily a sinner.

One of the important lessons the mirror taught is that people are not as they appear on the surface. Just as the priest understood that the face staring back at him in the laver is hardly the total person, so too he could not possibly judge his "clients" by considering only the reason for which they entered the Sanctuary.

And is this not the true message of the women's gift? Their inner maturity was the highest expression of Jewish faith, and that's what counts.

When the prophet describes how the Messiah will look at people, he stresses that "he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes" (Isaiah 11:3). Similarly, we find the admonition in the *Ethics of the Fathers*, "Judge all people favorably" (1:6). This phrase can also be taken to mean: "Judge the entire person (*kol ha'adam*), his activities as well as his inner self, and you will come to a favorable assessment."

Thus we see the central role of the washbasin in the structure of the women's faith despite the fact that their husbands' spirits were broken, and the need for a priest to look deep and hard at himself as well as others.

Shabbat Shalom

Cartoons from the state that bans the 'Post'

EYE ON THE MEDIA
DAVID BAR-ILAN

ON February 15, the Egyptian Information Ministry imposed an indefinite ban on the *The Jerusalem Post*. The notice was conveyed not to the paper, but to its Cairo distributor. No reason was given. *Post* reporter David Makovsky was told that the Information Ministry official responsible for the order was unavailable.

Another high-ranking Egyptian official, who would speak only off the record, hinted that an article by former ambassador to the UN Yehuda Blum raised his government's ire.

The press attaché at the Egyptian Embassy later incriminated an Oleg cartoon, printed two weeks before, a day after Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa blamed Israel's conduct for Islamic terrorism against Israelis. Satirizing Moussa's statement, the cartoon depicts President Mubarak asking Amr

Moussa to blame Israel for Islamic terrorism in Egypt, too.

In democratic countries, neither the article nor the cartoon would be deemed offensive, let alone lead to a ban. Even dictators now try to find an excuse for acting against newspapers by alleging distortions, slanders or interference in domestic affairs.

No such charge has been made for the simple reason that none can be made. Clearly, Egyptian officials simply resented opinions expressed on the *Post's* Op-Ed page. That neither the international press nor Egypt's apologists in Israel, mostly persons with liberal pretensions, have seen fit to protest the ban is a measure of their integrity.

The assumption in the Israeli Foreign Ministry is that the ban is part of the "ill wind" blowing from the Egyptian government, now pressuring Israel to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. It is difficult to see how Egypt can expect others to take its signature on this or any other treaty seriously if it can't abide by its obligations to the Egypt-Israel peace treaty and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, whose Article 19 guarantees freedom of expression.

A selection of recent Egyptian cartoons is reproduced here. It should be noted that while the *Post* is a privately owned paper which most certainly does not reflect the Israeli government's positions, all the Egyptian papers in this sample are directly controlled by the Egyptian government, which appoints their editors.



This cartoon in 'al-Jambouriya,' headlined 'Peace Process,' reads: 'Which part of you shall I eat first, my little goose?'



'Al-Ahram' depicts what 'peace-loving' means to Prime Minister Rabin and, by extension, to Israel.

The 'natural alternative'

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

CONTRARY TO legend, neither Chaim Weizmann nor any other Zionist leader, nor even any ordinary Jew or Christian, spoke of Eretz Yisrael and the Jews in terms of "land without people for people without land."

That phrase is often cited as a "typical" example of alleged Zionist malice toward, or blindness to the existence of, an alleged "Palestinian Arab nation/people" here in the early period of the modern large-scale Jewish return to our homeland from the late 18th century.

Someone did speak of Eretz Yisrael and the Jews as "a land without a people and a people without a land."

Not just "people," an amorphous multiplicity of persons, but "a people," a community of persons sharing a history, a tradition and a view of a common destiny. And not just "land," plots of ground on which scattered individuals live or which they work, but "a land," a territory to which the community as such has a special affinity.

The author of that dictum was a pre-Herzlian American Christian Zionist, William Eugene Blackstone of Chicago.

In 1878, at age 37, Blackstone gave up a successful business career to devote his life to missionary evangelism. That year he published a book, *Jesus Is Coming*, treating the idea of the fulfillment of biblical prophecy heralding Jesus' Second Coming.

In 1888 he went on a year-long tour of Europe and the Middle East, where he was moved by the plight of the Jews in czarist Russia and the achievements of the Jews in Eretz Yisrael. On his return home he organized meetings

of Christians and Jews to promote his Zionist ideas. He became such an ardent advocate of Jewish restoration in Eretz Yisrael that in 1916 the Federation of American Zionists dubbed him "The Father of Zionism."

The passage about the land and the people appears in an article he published in October 1891, "May the United States Intercede for the Jews?"

He wrote: "And now... we stand face to face with the awful dilemma, that these millions [of Jews in Russia] cannot remain where they are, and yet have no other place to go. May they not go home...? They would be there now, had their return not been forcibly prevented. This... presents an astonishing anomaly... a land without a people, and a people without a land!"

To be sure, there were people living here in 1891: some 500,000 town and village Arabs and Beduin, Armenians, Druse, Bosnians, Circassians, and European and American Christians, and 75,000 Jews. But the only "a people" here for whom this was the *Land* were the Jews.

The Arab group today calling itself "Palestinian" came into being as such only after the Jewish state was reestablished in 1948. It started reaching serious dimensions only as its members went on a diet of Jewish blood after 1967.

Before 1948, the designation "Palestinians" referred to the Jews, primarily the tens of thousands of Jews from Eretz Yisrael, which was then called Mandatory Palestine, who had enlisted in the British armed forces during

World War II.

Consequently, local Arab leaders vigorously rejected the notion that the Eretz Yisrael Arabs were a separate entity of "Palestinians," and declared "Palestine" really to be "Southern Syria."

In 1937 a local Arab leader, Aun Bey Abdul Hadi, told the Peel Commission: "Palestine is a term the Zionists invented."

In 1946 another distinguished Arab spokesman, Princeton University history professor Philip K. Hitti, told the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry: "There is no such thing as Palestine in history, absolutely not."

In MARCH 1891 Blackstone sent a "Memorial" to US president Benjamin Harrison and secretary of state James G. Blaine, urging the US to act for the restoration of the Jews to Eretz Yisrael. "The land of which they were so cruelly despoiled by our Roman ancestors,"

He wrote that "European nations sympathizing with the sad condition of the Jews in Russia, and yet not wishing them to be crowded into their own countries, will... cheerfully assent to this restoration... as the most natural alternative."

He had "special reasons for believing such sentiment already prevails, to a large extent, in Great Britain, and it seems to appeal to all classes of Christians as a magnificent humanitarian movement..."

In 1916 Blackstone sent a similar memorandum to president Woodrow Wilson, attaching a copy of the 1891 Memorial.

(Today's editors and publishers of *The Chicago Tribune*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* will no doubt be embarrassed to find their predecessors' names among the 413 leading American Christians and Jews who signed the Memorial.)

BLACKSTONE is one of several American Christian Zionists whose stories are summarized in *America and the Holy Land* by Moshe Davis, just issued by Praeger Publishers.

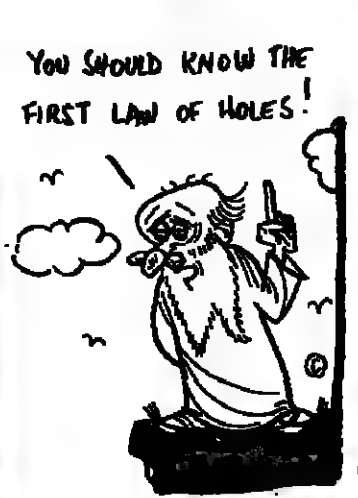
This is the fourth book in the "With Eyes Toward Zion" series initiated and edited and/or written by Prof. Davis as part of the America-Holy Land Project of the Hebrew University's Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry and International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, both founded by him.

Blackstone was part of an Anglo-American Bible-based tradition that has influenced numerous Christians, from monarchs and statesmen to millions of ordinary worshippers. It has been continued by such people as Carl Herman Voss, Franklin H. Littell, Sister Rose Thiering and those directing such Jerusalem-based, American-founded institutions as Bridges for Peace, Christian Friends of Israel and Jerusalem Vistas - to mention just a few.

Two other fascinating sections of the book deal with place names in the US taken from the Tanach, with maps, and settlements and institutions in Eretz Yisrael founded or settled by, or named for, American Jews or Christians. The lists were compiled by Davis and his wife, Lottie, who is also the series' coordinator.

SRULIK

by DOSH



D'VORA BEN SHAUL



For the first few days the infant sea horse is vulnerable to predators while its exoskeleton, spiny aquaria, as in nature, they do well on a diet of brine shrimp, infusoria and various types of easily grown plankton.



MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

Opening lead ♣9
ONE of the most popular tournaments on the European circuit is the 10-day event held in Tel Aviv early

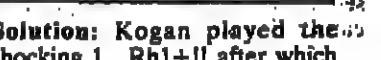
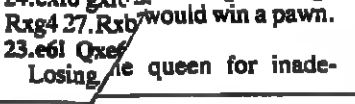
TABLE PRESENCE is an important quality, which Barnett Shenkin displayed in this week's deal from the IMP pairs when he was the only successful declarer in a slam. Partnered by his wife, Maggie, Shenkin landed in six spades after North opened with a strong two clubs. Shenkin made a

Shenkin won the opening club lead in dummy, drew two rounds of trumps, ending in hand, retaining the third trump as a later entry, and led a heart to the king. East ducked, which was a slight error, but an even greater error was his hesitation before doing so.

Of course, the defense could have done better: East by taking his ace on the first round or avoiding the hesitation, and West by splitting on the second round of hearts. But taking advantage of such slips is part of the game!

NIGEL DAVIES

Black seems to have a reasonable game but Zifroni's next move initiates a diabolical tactical sequence (See diagram).



had to resign. If 2.Bxh1 then 2...Nf1 is mate.

INEZ KLIMIST

Be sure that you remove all

If there are more new shoots than desired for renewal of the bush, rub them off with your finger while they are still very small. The remainder can be pinched very lightly when they are about 10 cms long, so that they will

Poly-Deshen (20-20-20) contains all the main food elements and is a good all-round food for the garden. But remember: more is not better. Too much 20-20-20 can burn your plants and kill them. Use no more than three to four teaspoons per bush, and don't guess, measure it. When the buds have formed, use a solution of half that strength, and the same again in mid-season.

It shouldn't be expensive, as it's very easy to grow and plentiful in our southern towns. I saw some in a local Jerusalem nursery, so it must be around here.

Yesterday's Quick Solution


DOWN: 2 Inner, 3 Exhibit, 5 Inter, 6 Monom, 7 Spite, 8 Brave, 9 Sewer, 14 Each, 16 Dear, 18 Request, 20 Require, 21 Have, 23 Come, 24 Refer, 26 Ideal, 28 Adder.

1 Passion (6)
2 In the news (7)
3 Birth (8)
4 Sound the horn (4)
5 Possessor (5)
6 Spurious (5)
7 Follow stealthily (5)
13 Olympian
cupbearer (8)
16 Italian rice dish (7)
17 Warning (6)
19 Trunk (5)
20 Young swan (6)
22 Military nucleus (5)
24 Familial hostility
(4)

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(in English)

*on Tuesday, March 7, 1995 at 4:00 p.m.
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هكذا من الأصيل

If stones could talk, this fortress would have lots to say

SEE IT HERE
HAIM SHAPIRO

On a windswept hilltop between the Coastal Plain and Jerusalem is a fortress whose stones have seen virtually every civilization in this land, each layer recording the presence of another conqueror. The press, Khirbet Meitad, is a stone structure without a roof. It doesn't look like much from a distance. On closer examination, it's possible to discern the elaborately dressed stones that are typical of Herodian structures, the smaller stones of the Hasmoneans above them, and the more rounded stones of the Ottoman period on top.

Some ancient sites are so impressive in themselves, or have been so extensively restored, that little imagination is required for the layman to be moved. Thanks to Miki Waisman, I was able to appreciate this particular site, a few kilometers west of Moshav Neveh Ilan, near the entrance to Jerusalem.

Waisman is the director of the Jerusalem Archeological Center, a relatively new branch of the Israel Antiquities Authority. The center provides both children and adults with educational activities relating to archeology.

This month the center is unveiling a new program, for groups and individuals, in conjunction with the hotel at Neveh Ilan. Visitors will be able to take a variety of tours in jeeps, on horseback, on foot, and even in private cars and buses. There will also be seminars and workshops and even the chance of participating in an archeological dig.

ON A CLEAR day, the fortress commands a view all the way to the sea, but even when the weather is hazier, it is possible to see the Modi'in area. It was once a stopping point along a Roman road, but as Waisman bent over and picked up what appeared to be an ordinary stone, he provided proof that it was an important settlement thousands of years earlier. The stone was, of course,

one of the many flints shaped into tools which, together with later potsherds, seem to cover the ground.

Proof of the Roman road came a few kilometers later, when we came upon a group of Roman milestones, standing like silent sentries against the winds of time. One bears a clear Latin inscription with the name of Julius Verus Maximus, the emperor who ruled from 235 to 238 CE. The road itself, Waisman said, had its uses up through modern times, and served as what he called "the Jordanian Burma road," being used by Jordanian forces in 1948, out of view of the Palmach.

Although the route is not suitable for private cars, those who want to visit these two sites on their own can drive through Neveh Ilan, past the riding stables, and through a gate dedicated by the JNF Holland, parking when the road becomes too rough and continuing on foot. Motorists can also get a little closer by driving straight through Canada Park and following the signs (in Hebrew only) to the milestones, parking at the milestones and walking up to the fortress.

The Jerusalem Archeological Center will provide tours for groups of between 20 and 30 adults for NIS 400 a day. For groups of children, the price is NIS 180 a day. Tours for those in private cars or jeeps are available for about NIS 120 a day. The center does not provide or arrange transportation, and prices on Shabbat are 30 percent higher. Neveh Ilan, which uses the center's guiding services, provides a night's accommodation, breakfast, a packed lunch, and an archeological jeep tour for NIS 420 per person.

For midweek guests staying more than one night, the cost is NIS 380. Neveh Ilan also offers a special bar-mitzva package - including overnight accommodation, full board, and a jeep tour for parents and two children - for NIS 999.

Have Purim or Pessah with Mickey or Donald

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

TOUR operators are promoting the world's various Disneylands as the places to spend Purim and Pessah. Disenhaus is offering a Purim package for parents to EuroDisney, and will include the kids for free, except for airfare.

For \$529 per adult, Disenhaus will provide airfare to Paris, two nights in the French capital and one in a hotel at EuroDisney, two-day passes to the amusement park and breakfast in their Paris hotel.

In this package, children under 11 pay for the airfare, but not for the hotels or the passes to EuroDisney.

The package is only for Purim, and the group will leave on the El Al night flight to Paris on March 16.

IF EURODISNEY does not appeal to you on Purim, you can try DisneyWorld on Pessah.

Tower Air, Histour and Isracard are offering special deals to Orlando, Florida, and DisneyWorld during Pessah. Tower will fly direct from Ben-Gurion to Orlando on April 10, and passengers can choose from a number of packages.

They include round-trip fare, accommodations and transportation to and from the airport and eight days in Orlando for \$899.

Another package, including two days in New York, is offered at \$1,045, and Orlando plus five days in New York is going for \$1,195.

FOR those in need of dialysis treatment, Yossi Tours has put together a package to Antalya that combines vacation with treatment.

The package includes four

nights and five days in Antalya for \$310 per person in a double room. The package will be offered on three different dates in March. It includes staying in a deluxe hotel at half board, transportation to and from the airport, and transportation to and from the dialysis center.

The groups will be accompanied by a dialysis nurse from Israel, who will make sure the treatment received in Turkey is the right one for the patient.

The cost of the treatment is \$295, and will be administered by local staff with a doctor. Those interested are requested to enclose a medical record that will be forwarded to the administering doctor.

EL AL will begin nonstop flights to Seoul, South Korea, on April 2. The weekly flight will leave Ben-Gurion at 9:15 p.m. every Monday and arrive in Korea 12 hours later.

Return flights will leave Seoul on Tuesday night. The round-trip fare is \$999.

Ofakim Tours, which has put together a 15-day package during Pessah to Hong Kong and Thailand for \$1,850, is throwing in for free an additional three nights, four days in Seoul to kick off the new El Al line. The Seoul segment of the trip includes hotels, breakfast, tours of the capital and transportation to and from the airport.

WEEKEND TRIPS to London and Paris during Pessah are being offered to youngsters and students, under the age of 26, by ISSTA. The packages to London include airfare and two nights in a hotel for \$415. A three-night package to Paris costs \$475.



In 1960, Paris had some 200,000 cafés; now there are fewer than 75,000.

(Joel Flahman)

Cafes - a dying breed

Higher prices, television and McDonald's are killing the cafés of Paris, Irwin Arieff reports

BLAME television and changing life-styles. Or maybe the coffee is no longer to customers' tastes. Whatever the reason, that cherished French institution, the café, has fallen on hard times. Cafés, which were introduced in France more than 300 years ago, peaked at the turn of this century and have been on the decline ever since.

From some 200,000 in 1960, their numbers dwindled to 120,000 by 1980, according to licensing records.

While not yet an endangered species, fewer than 75,000 remain in business today, the records show.

Traditionalists point to a variety of factors behind the trend, including changing eating and drinking habits, rising prices, longer commuting distances and more competition from jobs, family, TV and McDonald's fast-food restaurants.

"It's modern life," sighs Jean-Claude Gaudry, manager of the tiny Relais du Sentier in Paris and a 37-year veteran of the business.

"These days, fewer and fewer people pass by on their way home after work. Everyone goes straight home, as if back to their barracks," he says, pointing to the row of empty seats at the bar on a recent evening.

"People just don't feel the same way about passing some time with a few colleagues over a beer or a soft drink," said Gaudry. "And the time given workers for lunch these days is simply too short to have a proper meal."

Though café owners are reluctant to admit it, the quality of café food and drink is also deteriorating under pressure from radical shifts in a competitive environment.

More and more cafés now serve sandwiches delivered in plastic wrappings and pizzas bought pre-baked from industrial bakeries, rather than a traditional rich cassoulet of stewed beans and meat or a coq au vin.

The reason is easy to see. On the busy Boulevard de l'Hôpital near the Botanical Garden on Paris's Left Bank, which draws big crowds every day of the year, a row of cafés share a few dozen customers sipping beers or picking at plates of steak or roast chicken and fried potatoes.

But at the McDonald's just across from the garden gate, people wait in long queues for American-style fast food. "For young people now, that's their favorite spot," says Aberki Lacene, the barman at the Relais du Sentier. "We've lost many of our clients to McDonald's."

"It's true that the quality in cafés has been declining. Often not enough care is taken," says Emmanuel Despierres, president of the Coffee Committee of France. "The quality of the beans, the temperature of the water, the grind - all are crucial. That's another reason why people are taking their coffee elsewhere," he said.

According to the association, the first coffee house in the world opened in 1554 in Constantinople.

The idea quickly spread across Europe. Venice's first café opened in 1647, and London's in 1652. The Procope, which claims to have been France's first, opened in 1672 and was a favorite haunt of Voltaire. It remains open in Paris today, although at a different address.

Cafés quickly became a focus for intellectuals, drawing thinkers, artists and musicians, who spent hours sipping their "petit noir" - the French name for a cup of espresso - and arguing the issues of the day.

France's cafés are thoroughly intertwined in its history.

Writers Jean Cocteau, Ernest Hemingway and Henry Miller shared with Picasso and Lenin a preference for the Dome, the Select and the Coupole in Paris's Montparnasse neighborhood. The painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and writer Emile Zola passed their time at the Nouvelle-Athenes in Pigalle, while the philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre recorded his thoughts enounced in a booth at the Latin Quarter's Café de Flore.

(Reuter)

Lorca farmhouse now a museum

GIDEON LONG
GRANADA



Federico Garcia Lorca 'felt Spain in the very marrow of his bones.' (Camera Press)

AS dusk fell on August 9, 1936, Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca said farewell to his parents and fled their farmhouse on the outskirts of Granada.

A military uprising led by General Francisco Franco had plunged Spain into civil war, and Lorca, one of the country's leading writers and an outspoken liberal, was in danger.

Ten days later fascist troops hunted him down at a house in the heart of the southern Spanish city, dragged him to a nearby olive grove and shot him dead.

Lorca's killers were never charged, his corpse has never been identified, but his relatives say his spirit lives on at the farmhouse where he last saw his parents, which this week opened as a museum to his memory.

There he passed a decade of summers before his violent death, and there, in Spain's turbulent 1930s, he worked on his best-known plays and poems - *Blood Wedding*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, and *Gypsy Romances*.

"I'm now at the San Vicente farmhouse," Lorca wrote in one of a series of exuberant letters to friends in the late 1920s. "There's so much jasmine and nightshade in the garden that we all wake up with poetical headaches."

"I spend all day here eating exquisite fruit and singing on the swing in the garden with my sisters," he wrote in 1927.

"The farmhouse is a gem of trees and clear water, with Granada spread out in front of my balcony in all its unrivaled beauty," he told another friend in 1928.

The scent of jasmine has faded, the nightshade has withered, and the swing has gone, but Lorca's one surviving sister, Isabel, clearly remembers the poet's fondness for his family home.

"He loved the place," she said. "You could see the whole city from the balcony, right up to the towers of the Alhambra."

Isabel, now in her 80s, is codirector of the Garcia Lorca Foundation with the poet's nephew, Manuel Fernandez-Montesinos.

"It was like living in a romance," Fernandez-Montesinos said. "He always felt very much at home there."

But while Lorca loved his oasis on the edge of Granada, his feelings for the city, its people and the provincialism of small-town Spain were mixed. As the deep-seated ideological divides running through the country began to surface in the years before the war, his tenderness for his native province turned to bitterness.

"[Granada is] a wasteland populated by the worst bourgeoisie in Spain today," he said in the last interview to be published before his murder.

"I express Spain in my work and feel her in the very marrow of my bones, but before this I am a cosmopolitan and a brother to all."

"We must love Granada but in a European context," he said. "Only in this way will we be able to discover our best hidden and most splendid treasures."

Those treasures shine in Lorca's writing, and for many he embodies Spain more profoundly than any other Spanish writer.

Andalusia's landscape, its strict social codes and traditional music inform his work at every turn. Orange blossom, olive

groves, blood-red roses and the sound of guitars recur like talismans throughout his drama and poetry.

"Granada was a source of inspiration for Federico, for its beauty, its history, its architecture, its music, its art and its folklore," explained Fernandez-Montesinos.

"But yes, there was always some antagonism between poet and city. It still exists, but only among a small minority.... Granada has always had a reactionary element."

The family has fought to re-establish Lorca's reputation in the city which loves and despises its most famous literary son.

The poet was labeled a homosexual as well as a communist sympathizer, and while Spanish intellectuals hailed him as their leading light, many people in the city shunned him.

The Lorca Foundation wanted to put a plaque on the site of a house where the writer spent his adolescence, but the owners, not wishing to be associated with his memory, refused.

Lorca's family sold the modest whitewashed San Vicente farmhouse to the city council a decade ago so they could open it as a museum in 1986 on the 50th anniversary of the writer's death, and they donated manuscripts and memorabilia with it.

But the council ripped up Lorca's beloved jasmine and planned a grandiose park around the house despite the family's objections.

"It was a mistake to sell the house to the council. But worse than that, we felt we had been tricked... the mayor made promises that the council had no intention of keeping," Fernandez-Montesinos said.

It was not until 1991 that local elections forced a change of mayor and a change of heart. Since then Granada's authorities have worked hand-in-hand with Lorca's relatives toward last month's opening.

The poet's niece, Laura Garcia Lorca, will direct the museum, which contains manuscripts and drawings by Lorca and fellow poet Rafael Alberti.

It also features a sketch by surrealist painter Salvador Dali, a close friend and rumored lover of the author.

Exhibits include posters from Lorca's traveling theater group and the writer's guitar, piano and gramophone.

"We want it to be part house and part museum," Fernandez-Montesinos said. (Reuter)

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East Jerusalem building boom flouts the law

Legal and political constraints prevent city inspectors from taking decisive action against Arab violators of the building code, Bill Hutman reports

AWAR Mohammed simply smiled when Jerusalem building inspectors suddenly pulled up Monday morning alongside the home he was building without a permit in the city's Beit Hanina neighborhood.

Mohammed, an architect, did not order the four workers to halt construction. He admitted it was a violation of the law, but he didn't even offer an explanation to the inspectors.

The inspectors pointed to the rubble from two illegally built homes nearby that had recently been demolished. They warned Mohammed that if work on the new home was not halted, it too would be torn down.

One of the workers offered drinks to the visitors. They exchanged small talk, without any appearance of tension between the sides. They parted shaking hands.

The casual attitude stood in stark contrast to the seriousness of the matter at hand: illegal building in eastern Jerusalem, which many say is out of control.

But what took place was also symbolic. The inspectors and Arab builders are caught in the middle of an unclear situation created by local and national leaders.

Municipal officials admit that, in an effort to contain Arab population growth in Jerusalem, the city has allocated little land for Arab residents to develop, forcing them to build illegally.

The number of Arab residents in Jerusalem has grown from about 70,000, or 25.8 percent of the city's total population, just after the 1967 Six Day War, to about 160,000, or 28.4 percent, in 1993, the last year for which the city has figures. More than half the city's area today comprises territories taken in that war.

Legal and political constraints, however, prevent the inspectors from taking decisive action against Arab violators of the building code.

The result, as one city official put it: "Anarchy."

Documents shown to *The Jerusalem Post* by municipal sources indicate that since 1988, at least, the building inspection department has kept warning city officials about widespread, illegal Arab building in Jerusalem.

Seven years later, no decisive action has been taken to contain the illegal construction, according to the sources. Manpower and resources used for inspection in eastern Jerusalem remain scarce. The work done by the few inspectors operating in Arab neighborhoods is often torpedoed by top politicians who must give the go-ahead for action, such as demolitions.

Mayor Ehud Olmert — like his predecessor Teddy Kolek — has largely refrained from issuing demolition orders, partly because he understands that Arab residents are more or less obliged to build illegally, and because tearing down homes would be provocative and "look bad."

Instead, violators are fined and slapped with court injunctions, but the drawn-out legal process and lack of enforcement have made this latter route ineffective, municipal sources say.

THE SITUATION at times is absurd. Just before the 1993 municipal election, some inspectors spotted a building illegally under construction in the Abu Tor neighborhood. They went to their superiors with a request for its demolition.

But a pre-election freeze on demolitions had been imposed by Kolek, who feared that pulling down Arab houses would lose him votes. About a month after the election, Olmert signed the order. But it was already too late. The building was in use, and not just by anyone but by the municipality itself.

The city had unknowingly leased the building and turned it into a badly needed Arab elementary school. The inspectors involved said they didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

"The situation is fast getting out of control," warned a department memo that in 1988 was presented to the city manager, the mayor and other senior municipal officials.

"Not just additions, but entire buildings are being built without licenses in eastern Jerusalem, especially in Isawiya, A-Tur, Shu'fat, Kalandia and Silwan," the memo stated. "This phenomenon represents a total disregard for the municipality of Jerusalem."

A department memo from 1991 again warned: "The situation is deteriorating from day to day."



David Biton (right) and another inspector (center) talk to contractor Awar Mohammed at an illegal construction site. (Sarit Uziel)

is deteriorating from day to day."

"The existing procedures make it impossible for us to carry out our work," stated another memo presented to city leaders in 1993, towards the end of Kolek's term in office.

Municipal sources said there has been little change under Olmert.

A department memo sent Olmert late last year warned: "Hundreds of illegal structures" are going up in eastern Jerusalem.

None of the memos seen by the *Post* mentions an exact number or anything more than a rough estimate of the number of illegal structures. Department workers said there were some neighborhoods that for security reasons they rarely entered, making it difficult to estimate the extent of the problem.

"We expect to receive four new four-wheel-drive vehicles and four additional inspectors

[for eastern Jerusalem] by the end of next month," said department head David Biton.

"Our first mission is to go into those neighborhoods which we didn't have the manpower and resources to inspect properly in the past," Biton said this week.

Silwan, bordering the Old City on the southeast, is the major neighborhood to be targeted, as illegal building there is believed to be widespread.

"Our policy has been to concentrate our work on preventing illegal construction in areas zoned as open areas and areas for public building," Biton said.

Violations on empty lots within already built-up areas, or additions made without permits to existing buildings, are largely ignored because of the lack of manpower and resources.

Biton said there was no basis to allegations that Palestinians in Jerusalem began a wave of illegal building after the signing of the

Oslo agreement, in an effort to establish facts on the ground before the city's future becomes a topic for the peace talks.

"We're talking about large families that simply need more room to live," Biton said. "Our job is to make sure that development is done in accordance with the building codes, and I think the Arab residents understand that."

Palestinian leaders in the city deny allegations that Arabs are rushing to build to counter Jewish housing development. It is not that the Palestinians would not like to initiate such a building campaign. But as one senior Palestinian official in the city said this week: "We simply don't have the money."

Municipal sources say the city is likely to give retroactive approval for many of the building violations carried out within built-up areas.

However, in areas zoned off-

limits to construction, the city will remain tough. Biton will use court orders to evict families from homes they built illegally in open areas, and then demolish the homes.

How serious is his warning? Only nine demolitions were carried out by City Hall last year in eastern Jerusalem. Another 23 were carried out by the Interior Ministry. City records also show only 162 building permits were issued last year in eastern Jerusalem, compared to 1,553 in the western sector.

A driver through eastern Jerusalem shows that widespread, often haphazard, building is taking place in Arab neighborhoods. And it is likely to continue, if the authorities do not introduce order into the planning of eastern Jerusalem.

This is the first of two articles on the Arab population boom in the Jerusalem area. The second article will appear next Friday.

It's all in a day's work

NOT even the mayor gets the protection accorded the head of the city's building inspection department when he's on the job in eastern Jerusalem.

Two armed guards accompany department head David Biton on routine patrols in Arab neighborhoods of the city. One guard rides with Biton; a second follows in another jeep.

Biton, a 34-year-old relative newcomer to City Hall, also carries a pistol, just in case the guards are not enough.

"These are precautions we simply must take when we work in eastern Jerusalem," says Biton, who assumed his position in September 1993.

"Security is the top priority for me. I want to make sure that when I send someone out in the morning, he comes back alive in the afternoon," Biton says.

The supervisors in his department are also protected by two guards and a backup jeep when on the job. Four supervisors patrol Arab Jerusalem daily.

They are often threatened, not only because of their job but because they are Israelis going where most Israelis never think of entering.

"We don't receive an extra shekel for working in eastern Jerusalem," says supervisor Zvika Rosenbaum, adding that workers in other jobs receive bonuses for working in dangerous areas.

"In the three years I've worked as a supervisor I have had stones thrown at me a couple of times," he says. "Masked [Palestinian] youths once jumped out in front of my jeep in a Beit Hanina alleyway, but I got away without a shot being fired."

During "sensitive periods," such as last year after the Hebron massacre, operations are stopped for fear of attack.

Biton denies there is any area his supervisors do not enter. A department source, however, says they rarely enter the high-risk neighborhoods of Isawiya, Ras et-Amud or Silwan.

"The [Arab] residents understand the work we are doing," Rosenbaum says. "I've sometimes had to drink a dozen cups of coffee a day, because people keep inviting me to stop and have a drink while I'm on the job."

But he knows that most of the residents see his work as part of an effort to limit Arab development in Jerusalem. "I'm not a politician," he says. "I'm just trying to do my job as best I can." **B.H.**

Helter-skelter sculpture from The Destruction

An Islamic palace is being restored as part of a new archeological park that unites the many excavations in Jerusalem's Old City. Abraham Rabinovich reports

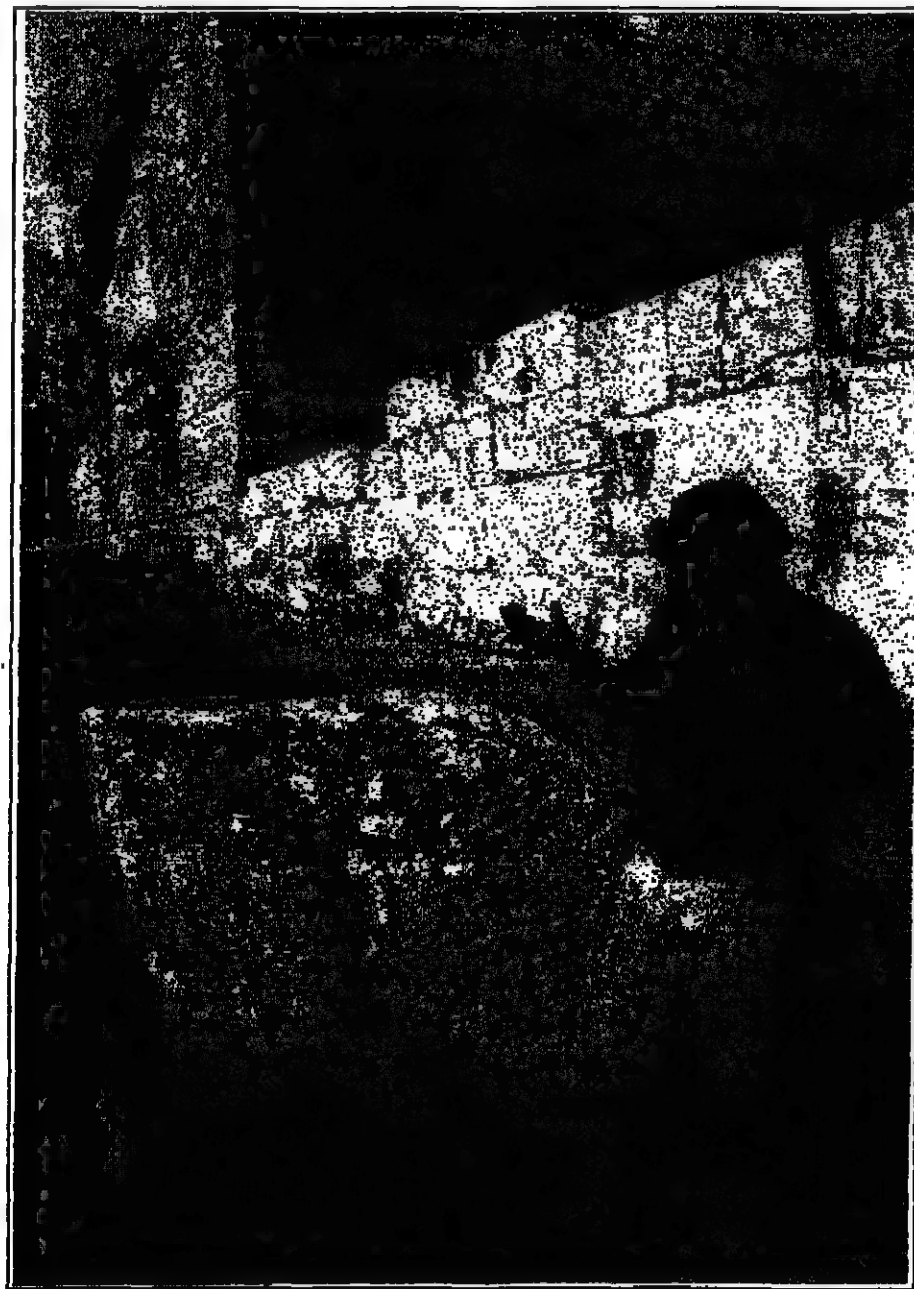
A glimpse of the massive stones lying atop the shattered Herodian street below Robinson's Arch is as much an auditory sensation as a visual one. The awful sound of their crash reverberates after 2,000 years as at the moment of impact. Instead of expiring in a graceful sprawl, the stones are bunched together as if they have not quite finished their fall.

It takes little imagination to hear, too, the cries of the Roman soldiers on the Temple Mount above, prying loose the stones and sending them hurtling down onto the street below as they release the frustrations of a bloody, four-month siege.

It is rage frozen in stone, a chilling man-made sculpture created in an act of destruction. In fact, *The Destruction*.

This week, the recently revealed stones again became the object of contention when Rabbi Meir Yehuda Getz, in charge of the prayer area at the adjacent Western Wall, announced his opposition to their use in restoring a Moslem palace.

He was responding to an announcement by the Israel Antiquities Authority that Herodian stones from this area were to be thus reused. Bad enough that the Romans did it to us, argued the rabbi. Shall we ourselves now cast off these remnants of the holy Temple Mount and use them to commemorate the grandeur of Islam?



Antiquities Authority archaeologist Gennady Kotovsky at work restoring Caliph's Palace alongside the Western Wall. (Ariel Zlotnik)

order to get down to the level of the Herodian street, and using the same stones to restore the wall of an Omayyad palace 25 meters away.

Getz subsequently indicated a readiness to accept, however grudgingly, such use of Herodian stones that had already been employed by the Moslems for building and

were not fresh from the jaws of history. "If the stones had never been used, there is no question but that they must be put aside and kept for the rebuilding of the Temple," he said in an interview yesterday. "But if their sanctity has already been desecrated by their use by non-Jews then it can't be restored."

However, the question of whether Jews should themselves make use of such desecrated stones — in this case to rebuild an Islamic structure — remains an open question and Getz has asked for a ruling from the chief rabbis, Israel Lau and Elyahu Bakshi-Doron. "I'm talking only about Jewish law here, not my personal feelings on this matter," said Getz.

In the massive excavations on the fringe of the Temple Mount led by Prof. Binyamin Mazar after the Six Day War, three large Islamic structures were uncovered. The best preserved was the so-called Caliph's Palace just south of the Temple Mount. Another, whose wall has now been dismantled, lies west of Robinson's Arch. A third to the southwest straddles the Dung Gate area.

The current archaeological puttering in the area is part of a massive project aimed at transforming the numerous excavation sites around the Old City into a coherent archeological park by next year, in time for the celebrations marking 5,000 years since David's conquest of Jerusalem. It is the first time since Mazar completed his nine-year dig in 1977 that excavations have been resumed on the site, albeit limited in scope and aimed primarily at making the site more comprehensible to visitors.

A new pedestrian entrance to the Old City is being created just west of Dung Gate as part of the project. Instead of having to contend with heavy traffic through the present gateway, pedestrians will be able to enter through a portal in a 14th-century tower shortly to be reopened. Archeologists are also clearing the elaborate sewage and drainage system beneath the Herodian street, so hardy visitors can explore the innards of ancient Jerusalem.

Architect Urik Plessner, who with Michael Turner is carrying out the planning of the archeological park, said the central courtyard of the caliph's palace will be paved and that an example of a Moslem garden will be created by allowing plants normally used in Moslem gardens to grow wild over the ruins.

The stones removed from the Omayyad building west of Robinson's Arch will be used to flank the western entrance to the Caliph's Palace, raising the level of the wall there by a meter or two and making it easier for the visitor to imagine the building's grandeur.

By removing the Omayyad wall from the Robinson's Arch area and exposing the Herodian street below it, the planners have provided access to one of the most powerful evocations archeology has to offer of a moment in history.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1995

15

Gov't options plan could work if it's done the British way

COMMENT
NEIL COHEN

THE options plan the government announced this week is a variation on the fairly standard theme of privatization via the stock market, pioneered in Britain by Margaret Thatcher.

Soon after she came to office, Thatcher started selling off the multitude of companies the state owned; some because they were monopolistic utilities, some because they had been nationalized by former Labor governments, and some because they had failed, or were about to fail, and the state rescued them.

Thatcher's program was, by most accounts, a great success. It was quick: The government had a merchant bank value the company, in consultation with the Treasury, a prospectus was prepared and off the flotation went. There was none of the interminable foot-dragging that has characterized the process here.

After the initial flotations of smaller companies that were less well-known, the government began to promote the offerings heavily in the media. The public soon saw that offerings were "priced to go," and that they should make a profit either by selling the shares immediately on issue or by holding on to them.

Applying for privatization became one of the few sports the British were good at.

Not only did the offerings go well but the companies' perfor-

mance improved; British Airways is but one example, though it is probably the most dramatic. From a lame-duck, state-owned carrier, it has become one of the world's most powerful forces in commercial passenger aviation.

There were protests by opposition politicians that the government had shortchanged the taxpayer by underpricing the companies, but Thatcher did not care. Her main motivation was privatization for privatization's sake. She was convinced that the state had no business owning commercial assets, and that those assets would be more productive in private hands.

The revenues the sell-offs brought in were most welcome, enabling Thatcher to progressively cut taxes, but they were secondary. And anyway, anyone could buy the shares, so if there was a giveaway the taxpayer was benefiting too.

The Israeli government has not been quite so single-minded in its determination to privatize. Ministers have been reluctant to relinquish the fiefdoms they have come to regard as their own, which enable them to distribute favors to their cronies and hence feather their political nests. And

the government has never been quite sure whether selling assets was a fund-raising exercise or part of the Thatcherite philosophical legacy.

In deciding to distribute free options it is leaning, laudably, towards the latter. Given the stock market's poor credibility right now, offering "cheap" shares that would be "certain" to be oversubscribed and therefore jump to a premium when trading began would be a laughable move. So the government is saying it will offer something that is certain to have value — something that people will be able to cash in on day one, or hold on to and hope for bigger profits in the longer term.

Having made this laudable decision, which should get big chunks of currently state-owned companies out of government hands, it is time for them to take another.

Since the sale of Bank Leumi to Edmond Safra fell through, the government should take the opportunity to break Leumi up. There is no convincing argument for the bank to own a real estate company (Africa Israel) nor for that real estate company to own an insurance company (Migdal). Each is a substantial and attractive concern in its own right. They would be more easily and profitably sold apart than en bloc.

February state revenues stagnant

JOSE ROSENFELD

STATE revenues were flat last month compared to February 1994, totaling NIS 6.2 billion, as economic activity stabilized, State Revenues Director Yoram Gabbai reported yesterday.

During the first two months of the year, tax receipts were unchanged compared to the same period last year, reaching NIS 14b. However, adjusting for legislative tax changes, revenues rose 3 percent.

Income tax revenues totaled NIS 3.6b., a real increase of 8%. Gross receipts actually rose by 13% due to end-of-year revenues coming in last month. However, the rise was

partially offset by a 31% jump in tax refunds.

Since January, revenues rose 6% despite the changes that took place, including the elimination of the 35% income tax bracket and the NIS 800 million expansion of the tax brackets, the additional tax credit point for working women and the reduction of corporate income taxes from 38% to 37%.

Customs and Value Added Tax receipts dropped 11% in real terms to NIS 2.5b. The fall was the product of reductions in import

duties and from the large increase in VAT refunds generated by high levels of industrial input and industrial machinery and equipment imports in the past two months.

Adjusting for the refunds, VAT receipts remained unchanged, reflecting a pause in the growth of economic activity.

Last month, there were 10,000 cars imported, a 2% increase over February 1994. Similarly, imports of most durable goods rose. Video recorder imports shot up 52.1%, refrigerators 50%, and laundry washers 0.7%. By contrast, television imports fell 5.3% and dishwashers 2.2%.

Oil stocks up after Isramco reports find

RACHEL NEIMAN

OIL company stocks surged yesterday, after Isramco announced traces of oil and gas had been found at its Western Sea 1 drilling site.

The company said there was as yet no way to estimate the financial significance of the find.

Prior to the announcement, Isramco released its annual results,

reporting a net loss of NIS 138m. for 1994, compared with a net loss of NIS 15.3m. for the previous year, on no revenue, as compared with revenue of NIS 1.3m. in 1993.

Net losses for the fourth quarter were NIS 33.2m., compared with a net loss of NIS 9.8m. in that period in 1993.

Rowland vows to sue Lonrho, pursue Bock

LONDON (Reuters) — Tiny Rowland, sacked after 34 years from conglomerate Lonrho Plc, said yesterday he intended to sue the firm for breach of contract and would pursue chief executive Dieter Bock "until the end of his days."

Lonrho's founder was dismissed earlier following frantic activity before a scheduled board meeting after a row caused by allegations over Bock's role in a 1993 property sale.

"It's the act of a desperate man. I'm going to get the best QC (barristers) and my lawyers to sue Lonrho and Bock, in particular," Rowland told Reuters.

Rowland built an obscure African colonial company into a vast empire to become one of Britain's most successful and controversial businessmen.

But his pugnacious style earned him enemies and the company he established finally threw him out, alleging "public and irreconcilable differences".

Two groups interested in bidding for Bank Hapoalim stock

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The Renaissance consortium and the Fishman consortium yesterday expressed interest in purchasing a block of shares, representing 20 percent of the voting rights and issued share capital of Bank Hapoalim.

The Renaissance group is made up of a large number of investors, including international businessman Ted Arison and Osem, which joined the group yesterday.

companies are entitled to gain control of no more than 8% of Bank Hapoalim's share capital.

In addition, the Fishman consortium is made up of TLC financing and management, the US investment banking firm Bear Stearns, Uzi Tsuker, Carl Glickman, and other foreign investors.

MI Holdings, the government-owned company in charge of the bank's sale, said the Bank of Israel will be able to start its examination of the candidates immediately after it approves them.

The consortium also includes the Claridge group, controlled by the Bronfman family, the investment banking firm Lehman Brothers, Dovrat Shrem, investment bank Goldman Sachs, Larry Tisch, Nilit, which is owned by Michael Levi, and Delta Gail, which is owned by Dov Lautman.

The second consortium is headed by businessman Eliezer Fishman, and includes Jerusalem Economic Corp., Alliance tire company, and Darban Investments, all of which are owned by Fishman. These three

sources close to the sale have valued the package of shares at about \$400 million.

A source close to Bank Hapoalim said a group headed by the Gijermezian family decided not to participate in the tender, after MI Holdings refused to give it an extension. The Canadian family reportedly asked MI Holdings to extend its deadline for depositing \$20m. with the accountant-general at the Finance Ministry.

Magic Software reports \$81,000 loss in '94

COMPANY RESULTS
RACHEL NEIMAN

MAGIC Software Enterprises has announced a net loss of \$81,000 for the fourth quarter of 1994, compared with a net profit of \$1.15m. for the same period in 1993. Quarterly revenues were \$6.6m., compared with \$6.1m.

Annual net losses were \$1.4m., compared with a net profit of \$2.5m. in 1993 on 1994 revenues of \$21.3m., compared with \$16.8m.

The losses were attributable to losses in the company's investment portfolio during the first two quarters of 1994. Magic further said a write-off of obsolete inventory increased fourth quarter cost of sales, which rose to \$1.8m. from \$762,000 in the comparable period.

Fourth quarter net profits for 1994 were NIS 10.1m., compared with NIS 6.6m. on 1994 revenues of NIS 281.1m.

Kili Industries reported a significant drop in annual net profits to NIS 6.7m. or NIS 0.69 per share, from NIS 14m. or NIS 1.42 per share the previous year; 1994 revenues increased to NIS 200.2m. from NIS 165.5m. in 1993.

Net profits for the fourth quarter were NIS 4.9m. on revenues of NIS 65.1m., compared with fourth quarter 1993 net profits of NIS 4.8m.

The company said sales will continue to be adversely affected until Magic launches its first fully Windows-compatible product in the third quarter of 1995.

Macintosh Chemical Works reported a rise in annual net profits to NIS 62.5m., or NIS 1.08 per share, from NIS 58.4m. or NIS 1.03 per share on revenues of NIS 1.17b., compared with NIS 1b. the previous year.

Asia and the Far East accounted for NIS 428m. of annual revenues, Europe for NIS 355.8m., North America for NIS 231.7m. and NIS 33.9m. for the rest of world.

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

Although profit-taking has hit the US T-bond market, the underlying trend is encouraging, as economic data show evidence that interest rate hikes are slowing the economy, and easing inflationary pressures. The yield on the benchmark 30yr T-bond fell from 7.53% last week to 7.48%, but has risen on the profit-taking to 7.49%. This is a normal correction and a consolidation period may be expected. Underpinning is provided by the continuing presence of bargain-hunting buyers.

UK gilt yields were adversely affected by political difficulties. The yield spread over 10yr German bunds widened to 154bps. It has subsequently narrowed to 141bps, as the gilt yield fell from 10.1% to 10.0%. There is good support for the March long gilt future at 101-25.

The UK FT-SE 100 index fell to 3009.3 on the collapse of Baring's and political concerns. It recovered well mid-week and at the time of writing, is probing resistance at 3045. Wall Street is over-extended and some setback may be expected, though the downside will be limited in the short-term. The gap between the FT-SE 100 index and the DJIA has widened by 185pts since the beginning of the year, giving the former scope for out-performance. We have seen buying in Reed International (REED) and Carlton Communications (COML).

The Hong Kong stock market is in a 7800-8400 trading range - it is holding an up-trend above support at 8225 and strong support at 8130. The property sector has been performing more steadily, as there are indications that the residential property market looks to be at, or near, its nadir. HSBC Holdings (0005.HK, HSEAL) released satisfactory results, but the earnings outlook is not positive and we are seeing selling. Kowloon Development went on Wednesday - Friday in good shape. Singapore reacted calmly to the Baring's collapse and it is holding above the critical 2137-2141 resistance area. A break upwards should occur if Wall Street remains steady, though in the short-term, the momentum does not look strong enough.

The Bombay stock market has recovered well, crossing the psychological 3500 mark on the BSE Sensex index yesterday. The market is expected to trade in a range of 3550-3550 ahead of the results of the State Assembly elections, due mid-March and the Indian Budget, due on March 16.

Gold bullion is again just holding above US\$374/oz, after being temporarily supported by the Baring's collapse. Sentiment is not positive, price movements are erratic and any rally to US\$377 is expected to be capped by producer selling. In South African equities, we have seen some buying of Anglo-American Corp (AMCJ.J), but otherwise, the market looks distinctly listless and our clients are avoiding it for the moment.

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Dollar hits postwar low vs. yen

NEW YORK (Reuters) — The dollar sank to a fresh post-World War II low against the Japanese yen Thursday as cash flowed back into Japan.

The slide escalated as large automatic sell orders were triggered, bringing the dollar to 95.77 yen in midday trading. The dollar previously hit a post-war low of 96.03 yen in November 1994.

Foreign exchange dealers said there were rumours that large

Japanese corporations were trading dollars for yen to repatriate profits home.

"People were just prepared to take the dollar lower," said Kevin Harris, international economist at MCM CurrencyWatch.

"We have had a nest of rumours about repatriation by Japanese firms. There was also the story that the Bank of Japan sees the dollar settling right below here (95.50 yen)," he added.

The dollar also fell against the German mark, which has been gaining ground against other European currencies for the past few weeks.

At midday, the dollar was quoted at 1.4575 marks, off from 1.4625 late Wednesday. It was also quoted at 95.77 yen, down from 96.78 yen in the previous session.

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Petah (foreign currency deposit rates) (3.3.95)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.25	5.25	5.25
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.75	4.75	4.75
German mark (DM 200,000)	5.25	5.25	5.25
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	5.25	5.25	5.25
Yen (10 million yen)	0.75	0.65	0.65

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (2.3.95)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates*
U.S. dollar	3.3710	3.4180	3.3870
German mark	2.8823	3.0040	2.9930
French franc	2.0244	2.0529	2.0440
Japanese yen (100)	4.7003	4.7894	4.7450
Swiss franc	0.5768	0.5949	0.5858
British pound	3.1155	3.1552	3.1354
Spanish peseta (100)	3.0720	3.1233	3.0976
Italian lire (1,000)	2.3816	2.4255	2.4035
Portuguese escudo (100)	0.4041	0.4038	0.4039
Belgian franc (100)	0.4592	0.4592	0.4592
Dutch guilder	0.3398	0.3398	0.3398
Swedish krona	0.8224	0.8224	0.8224
Canadian dollar	2.1144	2.1442	2.1293
Australian dollar	2.1835	2.2142	2.1988
S. African rand	0.8213	0.8224	0.8218
Belgian franc (10)	0.0845	0.0845	0.0845
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8850	2.9255	2.9052
Jordanian dinar	1.7445	1.7445	1.7445
Egyptian pound	—	—	—
ECU	3.7791	3.8282	3.8036
Irish punt	4.6881	4.7841	4.7361
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3014	2.3337	2.3175

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates	
	Change
US dollar ... NIS 2.9880	+0.07%
Sterling NIS 4.7457	+0.02%
Mark NIS 2.0440	-0.06%

INTL STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9874.50	+37.75
DJ Transport	1579.45	-7.91
DJ Utility	1882.50	-2.25
DJ Comp	1341.20	+1.12
NYSE Index	3211.18	-0.48
NYSE Comp	2417.95	-0.27
NYSE Ind	2110.10	-0.12
S&P 500	459.89	-0.18
S&P 400	484.25	-0.12
AMEX Comp	458.3	-0.26

NYSE stocks

Stock	Volume	Price	Change
Unchanged	702	95	1218
Volume up (in 1000s)	11542		
Volume down (in 1000s)	12819		

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3388.5	-4
Tokyo Nikkei	10881.1	+34.4
Singapore all-share	6594.4	+0.01
Hong Kong Hang Seng	6253.5	+0.25
Israel Tel Aviv	1187.9	+1.7

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Ami & P	42.75	+0.75
Ami A	5.875	0
Ami B	3.1875	+0.1875
Ami C	2.4375	+0.0625
Ami D	1.1875	0
Ami E	0.5	0
Ami F	0.25	0
Ami G	0.125	0
Ami H	0.0625	0
Ami I	0.03125	0
Ami J	0.015625	0
Ami K	0.0078125	0
Ami L	0.00390625	0
Ami M	0.001953125	0
Ami N	0.0009765625	0
Ami O	0.00048828125	0
Ami P	0.000244140625	0
Ami Q	0.0001220703125	0
Ami R	0.00006103515625	0
Ami S	0.000030517578125	0
Ami T	0.0000152587890625	0
Ami U	0.00000762939453125	0
Ami V	0.000003814697265625	0
Ami W	0.0000019073486328125	0
Ami X	0.00000095367431640625	0
Ami Y	0.000000476837158203125	0
Ami Z	0.0000002384185791015625	0

NASDAQ / over-the-counter

	Last	Change
Ami A	5.875	+0.375
Ami B	3.1875	+0.1875
Ami C	2.4375	+0.0625
Ami D	1.1875	0
Ami E	0.5	0
Ami F	0.25	0
Ami G	0.125	0
Ami H	0.0625	0
Ami I	0.03125	0
Ami J	0.015625	0
Ami K	0.0078125	0
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Ami Y	0.000000476837158203125	0
Ami Z	0.0000002384185791015625	0

Ami & P

	Last	Change
Ami A	5.875	+0.375
Ami B	3.1875	+0.1875
Ami C	2.4375	+0.0625
Ami D	1.1875	0
Ami E	0.5	0
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Ami B	3.1875	+0.1875

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Shabbat begins	Shabbat ends
Jerusalem 5:01 p.m.	6:13 p.m.
Tel Aviv 5:10 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
Haifa 5:11 p.m.	6:13 p.m.
Beer Sheva 5:16 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
Eilat 5:19 p.m.	6:16 p.m.

JERUSALEM

MORSHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agon, Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi, Tel. Minha 5:25. Sat. Shabbat 6:30. Minha + Shiluk 4:36. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Haragid, Tel. 02-253941. Friday evening 6:30. Shabbat morning 6:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King Da-

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Public sector hikes boost gross wages 2.2%

THE average monthly gross wage rose 2.2 percent last year, mostly due to large public sector salary hikes, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

In December, the average gross wage reached NIS 4,298, rising 1.6% over wages in the last quarter of 1993.

Most of the increase resulted from the 9.9% hike in public sector wages as a result of the generous wage pacts signed last year.

In contrast, wages in the financial and business services and in trade and food services sectors experienced the largest drop in wages last year.

Although salaries in the financial and business services sector fell throughout last year by 2.6% due to the stock market's slump, their drop accelerated in the second

JOSE ROSENFELD

half of the year to 3.9%, reflecting diminished activity in the market.

Similarly, during the first half of the year, while retail sales jumped, salaries in trade and food services also rose 0.7%. In the second half of the year, however, wages fell 4.7% as regular business activity stopped expanding.

The electricity and water utilities paid their workers the highest average monthly gross wage of NIS 7,994, nearly double the overall mean. In contrast, agriculture paid the lowest average salary of NIS 2,612, or slightly more than half the national average.

The following sectors paid

higher mean wages than the national average: transportation, storage, and telecommunications - NIS 5,925; industry - NIS 4,881; and financial and business services - NIS 4,320.

In contrast, these sectors paid below the national average: construction - NIS 4,285; trade and food services - NIS 4,049; public and communal services - NIS 3,958; and personal services - NIS 3,474.

The number of new salaried positions grew 8.1% last year, with the largest gains in financial and business services (16.1%), trade and food services (12.3%), and construction (11.3%). By contrast, the number of jobs in industry only grew 3.4%, slightly ahead of agriculture's 3.2% increase.

Professor's alleged domestic violence sparks MKs' debate

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Knesset Education Committee is to discuss next week how to deal with an educator who is violent in his private life, following reports that a Hebrew University professor beat his wife.

Dalia Itzik, the committee's new chairman, said last night the first working session under her leadership would be devoted to the issue, but not specifically to philosophy professor Adi Zemah, who is currently in Florida on sabbatical.

The National Students' Union yesterday called on Hebrew University students to boycott Zemah's classes.

In an interview last night with Channel 1, Zemah, who did not take his family to Florida, admitted that he had persistently quarreled with his wife, but said they had "opened a new chapter."

"I deeply regret the bitter family squabbles. But they are a thing of the past," Zemah said. "We have opened a new chapter and I beg the public to leave us alone."

The Zemahs' domestic troubles had been

the subject of a series of reports in the Jerusalem weekly *Kol Ha'ir*, and were apparently an open secret on the Hebrew University campus.

On Wednesday, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court permitted the publication of Zemah's name, following a request from the weekly.

In the TV interview, Zemah described the reports as "lies" and said it is now clear to all that reports he had hit his children were "totally baseless." However, he refused to answer a question about whether he had attacked his wife.

Press Council head Haim Zadok, a former justice minister, last night justified the decision to permit publication of the professor's name.

"[Zemah] is an educator and therefore the public has a right to know," he said. "There is no reason to grant special privileges to a professor that would not be given to a laborer from a development town."

According to the reports, the Zemah family's neighbors had witnessed violent scenes and Tammy Zemah had to receive hospital treatment on at least one occasion. Tammy Zemah was reportedly granted a court order that banned her husband from approaching their home.

Zemah's colleagues in the university's philosophy department yesterday staunchly refused to discuss whether he should be dismissed, saying that the media had "lynched" him.

"Any artist can have a disturbed personality episode," said Prof. Menahem Brinker, adding that most of the details reported were "guess work."

Brinker said he personally supported Tammy Zemah's decision to turn to the police for protection, "and she had good reason to do so. But the media disgraced the family," he said.

Another professor said: "The less said, the better for his wife, for his children, and for him."

'Al Hamishmar' staff consider running paper

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

JOURNALISTS at *Al Hamishmar* yesterday decided to try to put out an independent newspaper, following businessman Yitzhak Tshuva's decision not to buy the paper.

The journalists feel that the paper's owner, Hakibbutz Ha'arzi, might now close it down.

The workers' action committee is in contact with the action committee at *Davar* to examine the possibility of establishing a joint newspaper, along with outside investors.

Tshuva had been in advanced stages of closing on the purchase of *Al Hamishmar* and its press, but there were recent rumors that he had second thoughts about buying the press. Until yesterday, however, the purchase of *Al Hamishmar* was considered a fait accompli.

The action committee yesterday sent an urgent letter to Hakibbutz Ha'arzi's secretariat, requesting it not to shut the newspaper down, at least for the next few months.

The Histadrut-owned *Davar* is also in the process of being sold.

The Histadrut and the workers' action committee are in the midst of negotiations with French millionaire Jean Friedman, who wants to publish an independent "quality" newspaper, modeled after *Le Monde* and *Liberation*.

Doctors use 'keyhole' surgery to remove fetus

JUDY SIEGEL

DOCTORS at Hasharon Hospital in Petah Tikva claim they are the first in the world to remove a fetus that developed on a woman's appendix by laparoscopic ("keyhole") surgery, instead of by conventional abdominal surgery.

The case, involving a 35-year-old woman who underwent fertility treatments, was reported this week at the World Congress of Gynecological Endoscopy taking place at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem. The surgeons and gynecologists were Dr. Arie Dekel, Zion Ben-Rafael, Dov Dicker, Raoul Orvieto and Isachar Vollovitch.

Abdominal pregnancy is a rare and high-risk obstetrical complication that reportedly occurs in any woman from 1 in 3,300 to 1 in 10,000 births. It is more than seven times as likely to cause the mother's death than if the fetus develops in the fallopian tubes or another site close to (but not inside) the uterus.

The fetus was discovered at eight weeks lying on the woman's appendix. By making centimeter-long incisions in her lower abdomen, inflating the area and inserting a tiny video camera and scalpel, the surgeons were able to detach and remove the fetus. The woman quickly recuperated and went home two days later.

Laparoscopy is becoming increasingly common and allows patients to be sent home more quickly and with less pain and scarring. According to one of the organizers, Prof. Moshe Mashiah of Sheba Hospital, 60 percent of all gynecological surgery today is performed by laparoscopy.

Fifty of the leading researchers and doctors in gynecological laparoscopic surgery are here for the four-day gathering.

Bezek sanctions to continue, won't intensify for now

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEK technicians will continue refusing to repair phone lines today - but for the time being will not intensify sanctions - to protest the government's decision to break the company's monopoly on international phone services.

The Jerusalem Labor Court yesterday heard Bezek management's request for restraining orders against the workers. No decision was made, and the hearing is expected to resume on Monday.

The union said it acceded to the request of Histadrut Trade Union Department head Amir Peretz and would not expand sanctions at this time.

Both the union and management denied the workers had resorted to sabotage. A number of phone lines in the Communications Ministry's Tel Aviv office in the Shalom Town

were disconnected, including the phone of director-general Shlomo Wachs. But management said the lines had been cut by a technical fault, and that technicians were repairing them despite the sanctions.

In June, the government intends to publish its tender for two companies to provide overseas phone services in competition with the subsidiary that Bezek must soon establish.

The union insists the tender be delayed by several years, so that Bezek and its subsidiary can prepare for the competition. If not, "thousands" of Bezek staffers will be fired, the union claims.

Ya'acov Solan, head of the association of private telecommunications companies, said the group supports the government in its efforts to liberalize the field and hopes the sanctions will not deter the ministry.

Raid nets 12 drug dealing suspects

AMIR ROZENBLIT

TWELVE suspected heroin and cocaine dealers were arrested yesterday in a dawn raid by Beersheba detectives, who were acting on information supplied by an undercover agent.

The raid followed numerous complaints from businessmen about drug dealing in broad daylight around the city's commercial centers.

Information on the suspected dealers was accumulated by an informant with a criminal record. Dozens of detectives raided the homes of the 12 suspects, two of whom were arrested apparently in the process of making drug deals on their cellular telephones.

Israel signs health pact with Hungary, Slovakia

JUDY SIEGEL

HEALTH Minister Ephraim Sneh signed cooperation agreements in the field of health with the Slovak Republic and Hungary during a three-day official visit to those countries, from which he returned late Wednesday night.

The accord he and his Slovak counterpart signed will involve the exchange of medical information and assessments of medical equipment and drugs; exchanges of experts for studies and consultations; and direct contacts between institutions in each country.

While in Budapest, Sneh and the Hungarian health minister renewed approval of existing cooperation agreements in the field of health, which will be in effect until the year 2000. To these agreements, they added programs for the exchange of experts and information, and contacts between institutions.

Sneh said upon his return that the accords open up the possibility of exporting Israeli products to the Slovak Republic and to Hungary.

Sneh met yesterday in Jerusalem with his Lithuanian counterpart, Dr. Antanas Vinkus, to discuss the possibility of Israeli companies participating in development projects in the Lithuanian health system.

Prison source: Meshulam getting special treatment in jail

RAINE MARCUS

PRISONS Service officers are acceding to demands by Uzi Meshulam and his 11 followers for special conditions in jail, because the officers want to "keep them quiet and happy," a Prisons Service source said this week.

"The conditions and preferential treatment Meshulam and his followers are getting in jail are unprecedented in the history of the Prisons Service," said the source.

"Both police and Prisons Service officers are afraid that Meshulam's followers outside will take revenge in the form of attacks on senior officers," unless Meshulam's demands for special treatment are met, he said.

Meshulam is in Ayalon Prison

in Ramle. His followers have been divided between the Hasharon and Beersheba prisons.

Several senior Prisons Service officials and police officers are being guarded following threats on their lives by Meshulam supporters.

But the Prisons Service insists that many of the claims of special treatment reported in a recent article in *Ha'aretz* are untrue.

Two weeks ago Meshulam was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by the Tel Aviv District Court for endangering lives, shooting at policemen, illegally possessing arms, and other crimes committed during a six-week period last year, when the self-styled rabbi and around 100

followers barricaded themselves in a Yehud home. His followers were sentenced to terms ranging from 18 months to four years.

Prisons Service Commissioner Arye Bibi has repeatedly insisted that Meshulam and his supporters would be treated "just like other prisoners and would not get special treatment."

The source said that although inmates usually wear regulation uniforms in jail, Meshulam has been allowed to keep his white robe.

But Prisons Service spokesman Moshe Malouf said: "After consultations with the Prisons Service rabbi, it was decided to allow

Meshulam to wear his white robe only on Shabbat."

Since the sentencing Meshulam has been hospitalized in Ayalon's hospital wing after complaining of various medical problems. Malouf said yesterday that since other patients in the prison hospital wear pajamas, Meshulam will be allowed to wear his white robe until he is transferred out of the hospital.

He is to be transferred to a special non-smoking wing, currently being built at the cost of tens of thousands of shekels. Then, said Malouf, he will be issued a Prisons Service uniform.

Malouf denied that the wing was being specially constructed for Meshulam, as *Ha'aretz* had

stated. "A prisoner filed a petition to the Tel Aviv District Court a while ago complaining that the smoking of other prisoners disturbed him," he said last night. "A judge ruled that a special non-smoking wing should be established."

An ordinary toilet is to be installed in the wing, since Meshulam has complained he cannot use the existing Turkish-style conveniences.

The source also said that an orthopedic bed was being brought in especially for Meshulam, who suffers from back pains. His hand-carved walking stick was replaced with a regular one, following the *Ha'aretz* article.

Bar official complains office was bugged

RAINE MARCUS

TEL AVIV police are investigating a complaint this week by Tel Aviv Bar Association vice chairman Chaim Stanger that his office has been bugged for the past year.

The complaint accuses other lawyers of recording conversations held in his office, at the association's publishing house on Tel Aviv's Wilson Street. The

employees there are responsible for publishing the association's books and legal materials.

A source said the alleged bugging began when Stanger, who is also the publishing house chairman, exposed irregularities allegedly committed by lawyers and employees a year ago. Two em-

ployees were fired as a result.

According to the complaint, other employees hired a company to install bugging equipment in Stanger's office and in the office of another employee, to illegally eavesdrop on conversations.

The case surfaced two weeks ago when an employee at the publishing house told Stanger about the bugging equipment.

Environment Ministry opposes drilling for oil in nature reserve near Masada

LIAT COLLINS

THE Environment Ministry has joined the fight against the oil drilling in a nature reserve near Masada.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid has asked Shalom Danino, chairman of the southern region planning and construction council, to reject prospecting and drilling in the Har Kana'im nature reserve. The request is expected to be discussed by the council next week.

The reserve is home to a large number of endangered species, including raptors and possibly leopards. It is also a popular hiking spot.

Sarid said the ministry is concerned that the landscape and sensitive ecosystem would be irreversibly damaged by further test drilling. Fifteen tests, permitted by the Nature Reserves Authority, have already been carried out by the Avner Co. Bar-

lier this week the NRA said it opposed the new drilling plans.

"Natural resources, which some want to exploit, and nature's treasures, which others want to preserve, are often found at the same site, and the conflict needs resolving one way or another," Sarid said.

"In the Dead Sea and Judean Desert area, for several years, the trend has been towards exploiting natural resources in a brutal and extreme manner, without taking into consideration nature protection needs or tourism interests."

NRA director Dan Peri said the authority has the last word in the matter, and will not hesitate to use it to stop the drilling. The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel has also threatened to take any legal action

necessary. The planning council, and even the NRA, appear to be under strong pressure to authorize further drilling.

Another fight between economic bodies and "green" groups is going on in the Netanya area. This one is over building a residential neighborhood in the popular Dora Pool and Irises Reserve area. The conservationists have one month to appeal the plans, which would wipe out one of the last stretches of open park land in the central region.

The Israel Lands Administration, which owns the land, and the Housing and Construction Ministry, under pressure to build more housing in the area, are both firmly backing the construction. The plans were authorized just four days after 15,000 visitors toured the area in support of keeping it untouched.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sakhnin becomes a city

The Arab town of Sakhnin in the Western Galilee officially became a city yesterday, in a festive ceremony attended by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Interior Minister Uzi Baram, Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shevrit, and other senior officials.

In their addresses, all three ministers stressed the progress the government has made in closing the funding gaps between the Jewish and Arab sectors. Rabin made special note of the decision to equalize child allowances.

Sakhnin is Israel's seventh Arab city. Over 90% of the population are Moslems and the rest are Christians. *Itim*

15-year-old suspected of sodomy

A 15-year-old from a Western Galilee village was remanded for eight days yesterday by the Acre Magistrate's Court on suspicion he sodomized a seven-year-old boy.

Police said the boy has not been in a formal educational framework for over two years, and that his parents suffer from emotional problems. *Itim*

Reform rabbis to meet here

Some 300 Reform rabbis from the US, Canada, and Latin America will be holding the 106th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis at the Hyatt Regency in Jerusalem, beginning on Monday.

The conference, which is being held here for the first time in seven years, will focus on how to advance religious pluralism in the country. *Itim*

90-year-old robbed of NIS 1,300

A man posing as a bank clerk stole NIS 1,300 from a 90-year-old Haifa man yesterday. The man had just taken his monthly retirement pension out of the bank and was walking home, when a man came up to him, said he was a clerk at the bank, and told him there had been an error in counting the money and he had another NIS 50 coming to him. He asked for the money so he could count it again. When the man gave him the money, he ran off. *Itim*

Maccabi TA should romp over Zafirim

DEREK FATTAL

THE focus of this weekend's soccer program is the continuing struggle for the National League title.

Leaders Maccabi Tel Aviv should have little difficulty against Zafirim Holon. The Holonists suffered an embarrassing reverse in the State Cup against Hapoel Ramat Gan last weekend and are unlikely to have much confidence when they lock horns against the Tel Aviv outfit.

Champion Maccabi Haifa takes on Ironi Ashdod. The main problem for Haifa coach Giora Spiegel could come from his former charge, Alon Mizrahi, who spearheads Ashdod's attack alongside Amir Turjman. Although Mizrahi has found goals hard to come by this year, his lightning instinct in front of the posts could prove unsettling for his old stablemates.

Hapoel Petah Tikva fell from pole position in the last round of league action with

its 3-2 defeat at the hands of the current table-topper.

The Petah Tikvans have by far the hardest task amongst the leading trio with a visit to Beersheba. The first meeting between the sides ended 3-1 in Beersheba's favor. The match has the makings of a lively contest and provides the live televised game of Round 20 for Channel 2 viewers. Beersheba will be inaugurating their new floodlighting system, after tests during the week proved to be successful.

In other soccer news, Michael "Lupa" Kadosh spent his first day as Betar Tel Aviv's new coach yesterday. Kadosh takes over the hot seat formerly occupied by Avraham Marchinski and caretaker coach Ya'acov Ben-Nissan. Ben-Nissan will continue to serve the club in the role of assistant coach. Kadosh leaves Second Division

Hapoel Lod who will be coached in the meantime by Ya'akov Benodis.

In the past, Kadosh has spent spells as coach at Betar Jerusalem and Hapoel Ashdod.

Kadosh has a challenging task on his hands to prevent his new club - currently lying in 15th place in the league - from falling straight back into the Second Division. His first test will be tomorrow's home fixture against Maccabi Netanya.

After much debate, local league soccer also returns to the small screen on Channel 1 with the Second Division bout at Teddy Stadium between Hapoel Jerusalem and runaway leader Maccabi Jaffa.

The sight of Channel 1's Meir Einstein and Avi Ratson presenting such "bread and butter" fare marks something of a comedown for the super duo. For the last

few months, they have enjoyed bringing the armchair sports fans action from the top league on the planet... Serie A from Italy's mega-stadia. As the folks are often heard to say round these parts, "One week honey, another onions."

One final note. Be prepared to see a spot more color on the pitches this weekend. Those lovable chaps in the middle of the park are set to shed their black garments for FIFA-approved shades green, mauve, and gold.

This weekend's fixtures, kickoff tomorrow 3 pm unless otherwise stated (scores in parentheses signify results of first meeting): Betar Tel Aviv v Maccabi Netanya, (0-2) National Stadium, Ramat Gan, 2 pm; Ironi Ashdod v. Maccabi Haifa, (3-2), Ashdod, 4 pm; Hapoel Beersheba v. Hapoel Petah Tikva, (3-1), Beersheba, 6 pm; Maccabi Bnei Yehuda v. Bnei Yehuda, (0-2), Herzliya; Maccabi Tel Aviv v. Zafirim Holon, (3-0), National Stadium, Ramat Gan, 4 pm; Maccabi Petah Tikva v. Hapoel Tel Aviv, (0-2), Petah Tikva; Hapoel Be'er Sheva v. Ironi Rishon LeZion, (1-0), Be'er Sheva; Hapoel Haifa v. Betar Jerusalem, (0-1), Kiryat Eliezer.

Arsenal draws with Auxerre

LONDON (Reuter) - Dutchman Frank Verlaat headed an equalizer to give Auxerre an invaluable away goal in a 1-1 draw against holders Arsenal in their European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final first leg last night.

The French team's defender nipped in ahead of the Arsenal defense to glance a header past England 'keeper David Seaman from a free kick to the near post.

England striker Ian Wright, back from a four-match suspension, put the English side in front with a well-taken penalty - his 21st goal of the season - just three minutes earlier after Nigerian Taribo West tripped Danish midfielder John Jensen.

In another Cup Winners' Cup first-leg quarter-final action last night, Feyenoord beat Real Zaragoza 1-0.

Swedish international Henke Larsson scored the only goal in the 61st minute with a powerful drive for his seventh goal in this season's competition.

But Feyenoord ended the night with only 10 men after Dutch international Rob Witschge was sent off four minutes from time for hitting substitute Nayim, the former Tottenham player.

Zaragoza dominated much of the match but they failed to take their chances as Dutch World Cup keeper Ed de Goey pulled off a number of saves, including an important one from Argentinian Juan Esnaider.

Bloom and Nagy square off today in semifinals

HEATHER CHAIT

GILAD Bloom and Eyal Erlich enter today's semifinals of the Club Hotel Eilat satellite in Ashkelon.

Top seed Bloom (202 in the IBM/ATP rankings) and fourth seed Erlich (304) are the only seeded players left in the competition and are on track to meet in tomorrow's final.

Bloom, who turned 28 this week, lifted his play to overcome Giorgio Galimberti (444) of Italy, 6-7(3), 6-2, 7-6(4). At 2-4 down in the third set, Bloom pulled out the stops and fought back to clinch the match.

Erlich's victory was less taxing with a 6-0, 6-3 cruise over Atila Savolt (572) of Hungary.

In today's semifinals at 2 pm, Bloom meets Hungary's Victor Nagy (579) who defeated Yoni Erlich (516) 6-3, 6-4 while Eyal Erlich plays qualifier Daniele Bracciali (unranked) of Italy who ousted second seed Hungary's Jozsef Krosko 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

The final will be at 10:30 am at the Israel Tennis Center in Ashkelon.

Meanwhile, Anna Smashnova's moves up to No. 42 in the latest women's tennis rankings, issued this week.

Holon creates 3rd-place logjam

RICHARD ZAACKS

TOMER Steinhauer put the finishing touches on a see-saw battle to give Hapoel Holon an 87-80 away win over Maccabi Ramat Gan in last night's only National Basketball League action.

With the win, Holon finds itself in a three-way tie for third place with Maccabi Rishon LeZion and Hapoel Galil Elyon.

When Holon's Zion Kuba missed two free throws with the score 83-80 in favor of the visitors, Steinhauer grabbed the offensive rebound and sank the basket which put the game out of reach with 23 seconds left.

Even though Maccabi got off to a hot start to build up a 5-0 lead, it didn't take Holon's Adi Gordon and David Thirskill too much time to take the lead which mounted to 21-13 after 8 minutes.

But Holon couldn't count on any breathing room as Maccabi's Gur Shelef kept the hosts close, bringing them to within one point (23-22) after 12 minutes.

But then Holon started a run of nine unanswered points with Doron Shefa doing most of the damage with aggressive drives and accurate passing lifting Holon to its biggest lead of the first half at 33-24. Shelton Jones scored four points in that stretch to help pace the Holonists.

Holon, however, was not destined to take that margin into the intermission. Shelef netted 10 points in the final three minutes of the first half to cut Holon's lead to 41-39 at halftime.

In the second half, Ramat Gan's foreign players John Eubanks and Lamont Strothers started to find the range and; with 8:30 left, the pair helped to knot the score at 61-all.

From then, the lead changed hands eight times until Kuba found himself at the foul line.

For Holon, Shefa and Gordon sank 22 each, Jones had 20 with 11 rebounds, and Thirskill (10 rebounds) led all scorers with 23 points followed by Strothers' 17 and Eubanks' 14.

Shelef was the game's high scorer with 23 points followed by Strothers' 17 and Eubanks' 14.

National Basketball League

	W	L	Pts.
1. Maccabi Tel Aviv	21	2	44
2. Hapoel Tel Aviv	18	7	38
3. Hapoel Galil Elyon	15	8	38
Maccabi Rishon	15	8	38
Hapoel Holon	15	8	38
5. Bnei Herzliya	14	9	37
Hapoel Eilat	13	10	36
Hapoel Jerusalem	13	10	36
8. Maccabi Jerusalem	12	11	35
9. Maccabi Ramat Gan	9	14	32
10. Hapoel Giv'at	8	15	31
11. Hapoel Haifa	6	17	29
12. Hapoel Giv'at	4	19	27
13. Hapoel Giv'at	4	19	27
14. Bnei Ramat Gan	0	22	25

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 9:00 College basketball 11:30 European Cup Winners' Cup soccer 12:30 Spanish league soccer 13:00 WWF 16:00 Bushido 17:00 Israeli basketball magazine 17:30 Mondial 18:00 College basketball: Connecticut v Providence 18:30 Israeli soccer magazine 19:30 Israeli basketball magazine 20:30 National Basketball League highlights 22:00 European soccer magazine 23:00 European Cup Winners' Cup soccer 1:00 College basketball

EUROSPORT

9:30 Tennis 10:00 Leisure sport 10:30 Snowboard 11:00 Show jumping 12:00 Dance 13:00 UEFA Cup soccer quarter-final 14:30 European soccer 15:00 Adventure sport 17:30 Tradition 18:30 WWF 19:30 Formula 1 20:30 European news 21:00 International motor racing magazine 22:00 Live boxing 00:00 Wrestling 1:00 Martial arts 2:00 European news

PRIME SPORT

6:00 Live NBA: Houston v Orlando 7:30 Cricket from India 8:30 WWF 9:30 NBA behind the scenes 10:00 Live cricket: India v Sri Lanka 17:00 Asian soccer show 18:30 Chess 19:30 NBA behind the scenes 19:00 NBA: New York v Chicago 21:00 NBA: Houston v Orlando 23:00 Sailing 23:30 Asian soccer show 00:30 Snooker 1:30 WWF

SATURDAY MARCH 4

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis 9:30 Spanish league soccer 11:00 Mondial 11:30 Premier League soccer 12:00 European soccer magazine 13:30 WWF 14:30 Handball 15:30 Volleyball 16:30 College basketball: Connecticut v Providence 17:30 Basketball magazine 18:00 European table tennis: Israel v Turkey 19:00 WWF 20:00 Thai boxing 22:00 Basketball 22:00 Israeli soccer 23:00 Bushido 00:00 Mondial

EUROSPORT

9:30 Truck racing 10:30 Soccer 11:30 Live women's alpine skiing 14:00 Live women's speed skating 15:00 Alpine skiing 18:30 Live men's alpine skiing 20:30 Alpine skiing 21:00 Golf 22:00 Live ATP tennis from Scottsdale 00:00 Soccer 1:00 Formula 1 2:00 International motor racing magazine

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 NBA: New York v Chicago 7:30 Cricket: India v Sri Lanka 8:30 Live cricket: Australia v W. Indies 15:00 Sailing 15:30 European soccer show 16:30 Live Five Nations rugby: Ireland v France; Scotland v Wales 20:00 European soccer show 21:00 College basketball 23:00 WWF 00:00 European soccer show 1:00 Golf

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

Off-the-foot dribble gives Bullets 20T win

BOSTON (AP) - In one of the season's craziest games, the Washington Bullets edged the Boston Celtics 125-124 when Scott Skiles put in a leaser with 2.3 seconds left in the second overtime Wednesday night.

"We were on the ropes five, six, seven times," Washington coach Jim Lynnam said. "But we hung. Obviously, it was a wild game."

Wild and with lots of heroes and goats.

For instance, Boston's Dee Brown, who led all scorers with 30 points, dribbled the ball off his foot with 16 seconds left in the second OT. That dropped him from the hero's role - his fallaway jumper while tripping over an out-of-bounds cameraman gave the Celtics a three-point lead with just 10 seconds left in regulation.

Juwan Howard, who scored 26, got the ball to Skiles for the winning shot.

"Coach called it for Juwan to go straight to the basket," Skiles said. "But Sherman Douglas turned his head just a little bit and Juwan found me."

Another Bullets star was Calbert Cheaney, who had 28 points. After Brown's acrobatic shot made it 104-101, Cheaney tried to shoot a 3-pointer, but lost the handle on the ball. He pulled it back down, took another 3-pointer and swished it with 4.8 seconds left, producing the first overtime.

Washington, Philadelphia, Milwaukee and the Clippers, among the league's worst teams, have won at Boston this season.

Seas 101, Lakers 93

Even without Charles Barkley, Phoenix had too much for Los Angeles.

It took a couple of free throws from reserve AC Green with 4:15 left and two straight baskets from Kevin Johnson, just back from the injury list, to put the host Lakers away.

Los Angeles lost reserve guard Seade Threat before the game with bursts in his right foot. Already out for lengthy stays were starters Cedric Ceballos and Eddie Jones, along with Sam Bowie and George Lynch.

"Tonight was a battle of two banged-up teams that were less than full strength," Suns coach Paul Westphal said. "We could have played this game in the hospital."

Bulls 111, Heat 85

Scottie Pippen had 27 points and 10 rebounds for Chicago, which has won five in a row and is 5-0 at home.

"I don't know if we're getting a comfort factor or not," center Will Perdue said. "But we are realizing that these are the games we must win. You have to win at home in the NBA, and we're finally doing it."

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS:

Washington 124, Boston 124 (2OT)
Detroit 74, Indiana 79
Chicago 111, Miami 85
Phoenix 101, LA Lakers 93
Utah 98, Golden State 85
Minnesota 96, Sacramento 87

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta Division				
Orlando	43	13	.768	
New York	35	18	.660	7
Boston	22	33	.400	30.5
New Jersey	22	35	.386	21.5
Miami	21	34	.382	21.5
Philadelphia	19	40	.326	27
Washington	14	41	.255	28.5

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Central Division				
Charlotte	35	21	.625	
Indiana	34	21	.618	-.5
Cleveland	33	22	.600	1.5
Atlanta	27	28	.491	7.5
Chicago	26	29	.471	7.5
Detroit	21	34	.382	13.5
Milwaukee	21	35	.375	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Midwest Division				
Utah	41	18	.715	
San Antonio	37	18	.682	2
Houston	35	20	.636	5
Dallas	24	31	.436	15
Denver	21	32	.398	18
Minnesota	15	41	.268	25.5

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Pacific Division				
Phoenix	43	14	.754	
Sacramento	37	18	.680	6
LA Lakers	35	20	.636	7.5
Portland	30	25	.545	11
Sacramento	28	28	.500	13.5
Golden State	18	38	.323	25.5
LA Clippers	11	46	.193	32

Bobek is figure skating's newest 'bad girl'

BIRMINGHAM (AP) - Accusations of skullduggery and jealous rivalry have resurfaced in figure skating on the eve of the World Championships. The skater involved is a American cigarette-smoking blonde who's had a run-in with the law. No, it's not Tonya Harding.

She's 17-year-old Nicole Bobek. And, unlike Harding, she's considered the victim in what her lawyer says has been a plot to throw her off form.

Bobek, who most certainly be the only US champion ever to have the nickname "Brass Knuckles," is the self-proclaimed free spirit of the skating world.

The flighty skater from Chicago has unwittingly inherited Harding's mantle as the sport's bad girl. Like Harding, she had a troubled childhood and has never liked to practice.

Bobek got her nickname because she likes to wear 10 rings at a time - one on each finger. She has also changed coaches eight times in eight years, and her reputation for sneaking off to have a good time on foreign trips has become legend in US skating circles.

But the wild girl has been tamed, partially at least, by her latest coach Richard Callaghan. The Detroit trainer, who also works with US men's champion Todd Eldredge, installed strict discipline in Bobek's practice regimen, and it paid off when she upset Michelle Kwan to win the US nationals last month.

Then, even as Bobek was basking in the glow of her success and America was praising the elegant skater with the beautiful line, someone began leaking dirt.

It was revealed to the press that Bobek had entered a conditional plea of guilty in January for unlawfully entering a fellow skater's home. According to her lawyer, Michael Friedman, Bobek was discovered in possession of some money that she had picked up "lying around" the house.

She was placed on probation, but the case was dismissed when word of it was leaked to the press. One of the conditions of her plea was that the incident not be made public.

American tabloids began resurrecting stories about Bobek's wild past and troubled

childhood, and their notorious British counterparts may do the same if she strays from the straight-and-narrow in Birmingham. All the extra attention has been the last thing Bobek needed as she prepared for the worlds.

Almost forgotten amid all the furor has been Bobek's stirring and elegant performance at the US nationals.

It's the same elegance that prompted New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner to write a check for \$15,000 on the spot after he first saw her perform.

That elegance that dazzled the crowd at the nationals as she played the part of Lara from "Doctor Zhivago." In these days of jumps, it was notable that Bobek won despite performing fewer triples than Kwan, and that Bobek's most memorable move was a graceful spiral-step sequence that she learned from her Czech-emigre mother.

If she repeats the performance in Birmingham, which begins on Sunday, and improves her short program, Bobek will have an outside shot at a medal and will work herself into contention for 1998 Olympic gold.

Krupp's hat-trick leads Quebec past Lightning

TAMPA (AP) - The way the Quebec Nordiques are going, the last thing opponents need is for someone like Uwe Krupp to start lighting up the scoreboard.

Krupp, a 6-foot-6 defenseman known for his defensive ability, recorded the first hat-trick of his career Wednesday night, leading Quebec to an 8-2 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning.

In his ninth NHL season, Krupp had just 49 goals before his outburst. He was acquired in the offseason from the Islanders and became the second defense-

man in the Nordiques' 16-year history to record a hat trick. Bryan Fogarty scored three goals against Buffalo on December 1990.

The victory moved Quebec into a tie with Pittsburgh atop the Northeast Division and the NHL's overall standings with 30 points, and left the Nordiques trailing the high-flying Penguins by just one goal for the league lead with 80.

Rangers 5, Whalers 2
Brian Noonan scored three goals.

his last into an empty net, leading New York to an away victory.

Noonan's first goal, on a power play, capped a three-goal second period for the Rangers and gave them a 3-1 lead. He scored his second of the night and fifth of the season early in the third, and his last with 58 seconds remaining after Hartford pulled its goalie.

Joe Kocur and Adam Graves also scored in the second period for the Rangers.

Noonan, who came into the game with just three goals in his first 20 games, also had an assist along with his fourth career hat trick.

Mighty Ducks 3, Blackhawks 1
Linemates Todd Krygier, Stephan Lebeau and Shaun Van Allen each scored their third goals of the season as Anaheim won at home for the first time since January 27 and snapped a three-game overall losing streak.

Krygier's goal helped the Ducks take a lead into the second period for only the second time this season and first time in nine games. Lebeau and Van Allen scored less than three minutes apart to make it 3-0 with 2:36 left in the second period.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS:
NY Rangers 5, Hartford 2
Quebec 8, Tampa Bay 2
Dallas 5, Edmonton 3
Anaheim 3, Chicago 1

SPORTS BRIEFS

FIFA confirms Cantona ban

FIFA yesterday confirmed the worldwide ban on Manchester United star Eric Cantona through September 30 for attacking a Crystal Palace fan.

As expected, soccer's world governing body said it was extending the ban imposed last Friday by the English Football Association to become effective worldwide.

Cantona still faces a court hearing March 23 on charges of common assault, which carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail and a fine of £5,000. (AP)

McClellan shows improvement

Boxer Gerald McClellan showed his first signs of improvement yesterday, five days after suffering brain injuries in a world title fight.

Consultant neurosurgeon John Sutcliffe said that while it was still too early to wake McClellan, the amount of sedation he was under would be slowly reduced. (AP)

Canada to let Expos hire replacements

The Canadian government yesterday changed immigration rules that opened the way for the Montreal Expos to play home games at Olympic Stadium with replacement players during the major league players' strike.

The Toronto Blue Jays, winners of the 1992 and '93 World Series, will not be affected by the change in national law because of provincial labor law restrictions.

Expos president Claude Brochu has warned that without the replacement players, the team might move to another city - threatening 1,500 jobs and an estimated US \$90m in economic spinoffs. (Reuters)

Scotland, Ireland host Five Nations rugby

Wales travels to Murrayfield in Edinburgh to face Scotland tomorrow in a Five Nations rugby union game. In tomorrow's other match, Ireland hosts France in Dublin. (Reuters)

Packers release Sharpe

Sterling Sharpe, the star wide receiver recovering from neck surgery, was released by the Green Bay Packers on Wednesday.

The move occurred after Sharpe's agent demanded that the Packers release him or increase their salary offer for 1995.

Sharpe, 29, suffered momentary paralysis to the arms after colliding helmet-to-helmet with an Atlanta safety in December. He had another nerve-type injury a week later and was pulled from the lineup for the playoffs. (AP)

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Medical panel recommends resuscitation training for coaches

BATSHEVA TSUR

OWNERS and coaches of sports teams will be obliged to undergo courses in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman said yesterday.

He was speaking after receiving the recommendations of a committee which looked into the collapse and subsequent death of a promising young soccer player during a game.

On February 5, 17-year-old Liron Luzon of Bat Yam, who was captain of his school team, suffered cardiac arrest shortly after the match started. He was rushed to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer, where he remained in critical condition until his death this week. Liron had undergone extensive medical tests after his older brother, Daniel, died under similar circumstances two years ago.

The committee, headed by Prof. Michael Sagiv of the Wingate Institute, also recommended that youths with a family history of heart disease be examined at a special regional medical sports facility. Committee members heard recommendations from leading cardiologists and studied the findings of a similar committee set up in the US.

The recommendations will be included in legislation dealing with sports teams that is currently being drawn up, Goldman said.

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Deri lawyer: Key info kept from defense

District court to check why records from police interviews not passed on

ARYEH Deri's lawyer yesterday asked the Jerusalem District Court to investigate why records from several police interrogations of key prosecution witness Ya'acov Shmulevitz had not been given to the defense.

Defense attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak cited at least three dates in 1991 when Shmulevitz was called in for questioning, but said he had been given no record of what took place at these sessions.

Judges Ya'acov Tzemah, Moussa Arad, and Miriam Na'or

asked prosecutor Yehoshua Resnick if he knew about the missing material, and he replied that he had only become aware of the matter a few days ago. The prosecution, he added, had given the defense everything the police had given it.

The judges then asked Resnick what he had done about the matter, and he replied that he had asked the police for an explanation.

The judges, in response to an earlier request by Avi-Yitzhak,

JACOB DALLAL and Itim

also announced they would examine Shmulevitz's medical records to see if they were relevant to the case.

Shmulevitz suffered a head injury while serving in the IDF, and Avi-Yitzhak, claiming this had affected Shmulevitz's memory, asked that he be given the medical records. Shmulevitz objected, saying this would violate his right to privacy.

The defense spent most of the

session questioning Shmulevitz on why he had been jailed in Switzerland. The defense insisted it was for international fraud, and not for minor offenses like working without a permit, as Shmulevitz had claimed.

Avi-Yitzhak contended that in the scam, Shmulevitz and his partners would issue forged letters of credit to unknowing business people.

"You would offer letters of credit at a reduced price - letters that never existed," Avi-Yitzhak

said. "The allegations deal with tens of millions of dollars."

Avi-Yitzhak said that in the few months scam operated, Shmulevitz made \$150,000, assets which have since been frozen by the Swiss government.

Shmulevitz was brought here from a Swiss jail to testify by special arrangement with the Swiss authorities. He is scheduled to stand trial after his testimony is finished, pending his petition to the High Court against his return.

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Members of Mirage, Jordan's premier rock group, pose with Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzna on a lookout above the city. The group is here for a series of concerts sponsored by Beit Gefen, Haifa's Jewish-Arab cultural center. From left: organist Talal Abu Alarab, singer Aida Abu Nuar, Mitzna, singer Wal Abu Nuar (Aida's husband), and drummer Haisam Alnasser. (Paul Melling)

Kiryat Arba residents given suspended sentences, fines for praising Goldstein

THREE Kiryat Arba residents, convicted of incitement, were given four-month suspended sentences and fined NIS 1,000 each by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday for making statements in the media praising Baruch Goldstein, immediately after he committed the Machpela Cave massacre last year.

Shmuel Ben-Yishai, Arye Bar-Yoseph, and Amnon Tadmor, called Goldstein "a hero," and "a righteous man."

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Shahal plans to form tougher Traffic Police

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal is planning a major shake-up in the National Traffic Police, in an attempt to combat the growing carnage on the roads, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Shahal has summoned Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and Traffic Police Chief Cmdr. Eitan Katz to his office next week to discuss the plans.

Shahal is considering making the National Traffic Police a department in the Police Ministry, so he can personally oversee its operations, ministry sources said.

Last year 528 people were killed

in road accidents, and deaths have continued to be high in the first months of this year.

Shahal wants to increase the number of traffic policemen and give them more vehicles and enforcement equipment, but only after he is certain they will be used effectively, the sources said.

One of the high-tech traffic enforcement technologies that the ministry is considering purchasing is a video-camera system that provides constant monitoring of vehicle speeds. The system would allow police to know the speed of every vehicle on the highway.

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